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Building climate resilience of vulnerable and food-Insecure communities through capacity strengthening and livelihood diversification in mountainous regions of Tajikistan

Decentralized evaluation report
WFP Country Office Tajikistan

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CLIMATE
FUND**

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Disclaimer

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Executive summary

1. This report presents the findings of the decentralized evaluation of the Green Climate Fund (GCF) financed project "Building Climate Resilience of Vulnerable and Food-Insecure Communities through Capacity Strengthening and Livelihood Diversification in Mountainous Regions of Tajikistan" (hereafter "the GCF Project"). The project was jointly implemented by the Committee for Environmental Protection (CEP) under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan and the World Food Programme (WFP), covering the period from March 2020 to March 2025.

2. This final project evaluation, commissioned by WFP Tajikistan covered the entirety of project implementation (thematic, temporal and geographic scope) and was organized around a set of evaluation questions that were presented in the Terms of Reference (ToR) and the project Theory of Change (ToC), which was reconstructed during the inception phase to clarify the intended pathways of change and support results-based analysis. Engagement with WFP stakeholders was essential during this phase and informed the final design of the evaluation tools.

3. The evaluation applied a mixed-methods approach and was conducted between December 2024 and August 2025. It started off with a comprehensive document review complemented by a total of 34 key informant interviews (KIIs) with 42 individuals (30 female, 12 male), and 68 focus group discussions (FGDs) which were carried out across 30 jamoats, engaging 646 beneficiaries (192 women, 454 men), alongside three FGDs with 32 non-beneficiaries to assess comparative perspectives.

4. Site observations were conducted in 53 communities, covering both community and household-level assets supported under the project. The document review and observations, alongside interviews and FGDs, enabled triangulation and provided a robust evidence base. A clearly defined rating system was used to support systematic analysis. Ethical standards were maintained throughout the process, and culturally appropriate practices were applied during engagement. The evaluation supports accountability and learning to inform future climate resilience efforts in Tajikistan. The main users of the evaluation include WFP at country, regional, and headquarters levels, the Government of Tajikistan, the GCF.

About the project

5. The project was a five-year climate adaptation initiative with approved GCF budget of USD 9.27 million, supplemented by co-financing contributions from WFP (USD 345,980) and the Government of Tajikistan (USD 353,424). The project aimed to enhance the climate resilience and food security of vulnerable populations in remote and mountainous districts through two interconnected components:

- Capacity strengthening and awareness-raising to improve climate information systems, institutional planning, and community decision making.
- Resilience building at household and community levels through livelihood diversification, asset creation, irrigation and water infrastructure development, and promotion of renewable energy technologies.

6. Key activities included digitization of climate data, support to Hydromet for climate forecasting, training on Participatory Integrated Climate Services for Agriculture (PICSA), integration of adaptation plans into district development plans (DDPs), establishment of 400 ha of orchards and 200 ha of agroforestry land, installation of solar-powered water pumps and drip irrigation systems, rehabilitation of 50 drinking water supply systems (DWSS), and distribution of 400 greenhouse-dryer-cooker bundles to households headed by women. The project reached approximately 21,000 direct and 50,000 indirect beneficiaries, focusing on food-insecure and climate-vulnerable communities.

7. The project aligned with national strategies including the National Adaptation Strategy to 2030, the National Development Strategy to 2030, and Tajikistan's updated Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC). Its design reflected the WFP strategic shift toward climate resilience and contributed to Sustainable

Key findings

8. **Relevance.** The project was highly relevant to the needs of climate-vulnerable and food-insecure communities, and well aligned with national policies, sectoral strategies and international climate and development frameworks. The project's alignment with the National Adaptation Strategy, sectoral plans, and the WFP strategic priorities was reflected in its support to national and subnational institutions, and in its efforts to integrate adaptation into district development plans. The design responded to key institutional and community-level priorities, including climate information services, water access, food security and gender-responsive support. The project was also flexible, to adapt to evolving context, external delays and systemic constraints, which helped to maintain the relevance of inputs and activities in a changing context. The project's relevance was rated as **Satisfactory**.

9. **Coherence.** The project was internally coherent, with thematic complementarity between its two components and a clear results logic linking institutional climate services with community-level adaptation measures. Investment in climate information systems and participatory tools, such as PICSA (Component 1) were effectively designed to inform farmers' decision making and use of assets under Component 2, although delays in digital rollout and unequal access to ICT tools for farmers limited the full integration of these components in practice. External coherence was weak, with limited coordination and collaboration with other UN agencies, donors and international actors. The absence of systematic coordination mechanisms reduced the potential for broader synergies and constrained knowledge exchange across Tajikistan's climate resilience portfolio. Coherence was rated as **Moderately Satisfactory**.

10. **Efficiency.** The project successfully disbursed its allocated GCF budget and maintained effective financial management, with strategic use of co-financing and prioritization of funds in response to inflation and cost pressures. However, overall implementation efficiency was constrained by delays in project approval, disbursement, procurement, and administrative processes, resulting in a compressed implementation timeline and adjustments to output quality and delivery. The project struggled to maintain consistent coordination and communication at the central level, limiting extent to which feedback could be utilised for decision making and adaptive learning, as well as national ownership. The overall efficiency rating is **Moderately Satisfactory**.

11. **Effectiveness.** The project made progress toward achieving its planned outputs and outcomes, with evidence of strong transformative potential in both institutional and community settings. Component 1 contributed to enhanced climate information through the strengthening of Hydromet's capacity, the rollout of ICT platforms, and the introduction of participatory methodologies such as PICSA. The WFP follow-up work to integrate adaptation priorities into district development plans in 11 districts, and targeted awareness campaigns and training of professionals across sectors, further enhanced the enabling environment for long-term climate resilience. However, progress and transformative effects of institutional capacity strengthening was moderated by digital access barriers, uneven institutional engagement and absorption capacity.

12. Component 2 supported the diversification of rural livelihoods through investments in agroforestry, irrigation, water supply, renewable energy technologies etc. contributing to productivity gains and improved food security. The creation/rehabilitation of orchards, storage infrastructure and water systems enabled beneficiaries to expand cultivation and reduce post-harvest losses, though in some areas the sustainability of these gains was constrained by climate hazards, technical limitations and quality issues in asset delivery, and among groups with lower capacity for asset use. Support to women headed households through bundled support (technology combined with capacity strengthening) contributed to positive outcomes in income generation and empowerment.

13. Overall, the project met a majority of its intended results, but the achievement of sustained and inclusive cascade effects remains dependent on continued institutional support, targeted follow-up, and improved mechanisms for addressing social and environmental barriers. Effectiveness is rated as **Satisfactory**.

14. **Gender and equity.** Gender considerations were effectively integrated into project design and implementation, particularly through the targeted support to women headed, households resulting in measurable improvements in income generation, food security, energy efficiency and time use. Interventions

such as the provision of greenhouses, solar dryers and cookers, combined with financial and technical training, enhanced women's economic resilience and contributed to household wellbeing. However, deeper structural outcomes such as improved access to credit, secure land ownership, or participation in formal producer groups were beyond the scope and capacity of the project to influence directly. Digital access limitations and the reliance on informal peer networks further constrained the potential for collective agency.

15. The project did not incorporate any specific strategies for the inclusion of persons with disabilities, or collection and report disaggregated data by disability, limiting the project's ability to take stock of equity outcomes. As a result, **gender** is rated as **Satisfactory**, while **disability inclusion** is rated as **Highly Unsatisfactory**.

16. **Sustainability.** The sustainability prospects of project benefits are moderate. A number of foundational elements are in place, including enhanced infrastructure, institutional engagement, and capacity at individual level. The project's alignment with national adaptation policies and embedded activities into district-level planning processes contributed to a measure of institutional continuity. Community ownership was reinforced through participatory planning and the establishment of maintenance agreements, with several examples of local commitment to preserving key infrastructure such as water systems and storage facilities. However, the absence of a formal sustainability strategy, limited access to long-term financing mechanisms for beneficiaries, and continued capacity constraints within implementing institutions present risks to the continuation of results. For illustration, the transfer of digital advisory systems to national agencies occurred without sufficient evidence of readiness for independent management. Besides, many individual beneficiaries lacked access to financial services or the market linkages needed to scale and sustain asset use. The project did not succeed in systematically establishing structured support for ongoing maintenance or replacement of technologies, such as solar equipment and irrigation systems, which could affect the durability of assets. Sustainability was rated as **moderately likely**.

17. **Impact.** The project contributed to sustainable development outcomes, particularly towards enhanced land and water management, increased agricultural productivity, diversification of income sources, improved food security, and broader access to climate and market information. Climate advisory systems, orchard development, irrigation rehabilitation, and the use of solar-powered pumps supported adaptive agricultural practices and reduced exposure to drought and land degradation. Women-headed households and economically vulnerable groups reached by the project reported improved livelihoods and increased confidence. However, the project did not have wider knock-on effects on communities, such as net low-emission contributions, though the introduction of solar dryers and cookers, along with solar irrigation, demonstrated potential for reducing household reliance on traditional energy sources. The absence of systematic greenhouse gas accounting more broadly limits the possibility for the evaluation to quantify the project's mitigation impact. Impact was not rated due to the complexity of measuring long-term changes of intervention which was under finalisation in a dynamic and multi-actor context at the time of the evaluation.

18. **Country ownership.** The project made deliberate efforts to promote national ownership through alignment with key policy frameworks and formal engagement with government institutions. At the community level, although participatory structures were in place, community input was primarily consultative rather than influential. Partnerships with key agencies and the inclusion of project activities in district development plans helped ensure consistency with national priorities and supported institutional buy-in. However, coordination and communication challenges weakened national-level ownership. These factors collectively reduced the potential for more inclusive and sustained ownership, so this area is rated as **Moderately Satisfactory**.

19. **Innovation, replicability and scalability.** The project did not generate technologies that would be considered new globally, it successfully contextualized and institutionalized existing models to the Tajikistan context in a manner that supports future scaling without significantly increasing implementation costs, provided that system-level integration, sustained institutional engagement, and financial planning are strengthened. Innovativeness, replicability and scalability were rated as **Satisfactory**. Examples include locally innovative and scalable solutions such as drip irrigation systems, solar-powered water pumps and ICT-based platforms for real-time climate and market information) that enhanced climate resilience and demonstrated operational viability in remote, resource-constrained settings. These approaches showed potential for replication and sustainability, particularly through integration into local planning frameworks and institutional structures.

Conclusions

20. **Relevance and national ownership.** The project was highly relevant to national priorities and sectoral strategies, reinforcing its positioning and alignment with climate adaptation frameworks. However, national ownership remained uneven with limited space for participation of subnational and marginalized actors, which constrained the depth of institutional and community engagement.
21. **Coherence.** The project maintained strong internal coherence through integrated programming and a logical connection between institutional and community-level interventions. External coherence, however, was limited by fragmented collaboration with development partners and multilateral actors, resulting in missed opportunities for broader strategic alignment.
22. **Efficiency.** Financial resources were managed efficiently, and full disbursement was achieved in line with implementation priorities. Efficiency was affected by early procedural delays and compressed timelines as well as communication issues, which somewhat reduced the space for iterative learning and operational flexibility. Adaptive responses were applied in response to emerging challenges, although structural barriers such as limited community decision-making influence and digital exclusion affected the overall inclusiveness of results.
23. **Effectiveness and impact prospects.** The project achieved its planned outputs and contributed to improved resilience, adaptive capacity, and livelihoods in target areas. Through these, the project contributed meaningfully to climate adaptation and rural development outcomes, with improvements in agricultural productivity, food security, and access to climate information. Gains were particularly visible among vulnerable women, though contributions to climate mitigation remained modest and incidental.
24. **Sustainability, replicability, and scale-up potential.** The project established important foundations for sustainability through institutional engagement and integration into local planning frameworks. However, the continuation of benefits remains dependent on factors such as resource availability, system maintenance, and institutional capacity, which were not fully secured at project closure.
25. **Gender and equity.** The project successfully targeted women-headed households and improved their access to productive assets, training, and income-generating opportunities, which had transformative effects on their empowerment and wellbeing. Broader structural barriers, including those affecting financial inclusion and the participation of persons with disabilities, were not addressed, limiting the depth of equity outcomes.

Lessons learned

1. **Lesson learned 1.** Investment in adaptive infrastructure needs to be coupled with formal maintenance agreements, financing mechanisms and institutional responsibilities to avoid loss of benefits over time.
2. **Lesson learned 2.** Sustained behavioural change in climate resilience is more effectively achieved through multi-stage, iterative capacity strengthening rather than standalone training events.
3. **Lesson learned 3.** The scalability of rural resilience interventions depends on the institutionalization of innovative delivery models that have demonstrated operational relevance and effectiveness.
4. **Lesson learned 4.** Financial inclusion and economic empowerment outcomes require explicit linkages to formal systems, such as savings, credit, and market access mechanisms.

Recommendations

Recommendations	Recommendation grouping	Responsibility (one lead office/entity)	Other contributing entities	Priority: high/medium	By when
Recommendation 1. Consolidate and scale tested intervention models through modular and standardized delivery packages.	Long Term	WFP	CEP	High	Q1 2026
Recommendation 2. Strengthen institutional anchoring and operational sustainability of climate information services through tailored technical assistance and decentralized service delivery models.	Long Term	WFP	Hydromet, CEP	medium	Q1 2026
Recommendation 3. Continue to strengthen inclusion and women's empowerment by building practical, context-specific mechanisms for participation, follow-up, and access to resources.	Medium Term	WFP	CEP, local authorities in target areas, Community based organisations	High	Q1 2026
Recommendation 4. Embed proactive risk management, sustainability planning and institutional handover strategies from the outset.	Long Term	WFP	CEP, Hydromet	Medium	Q3 2025

1. Introduction

1. This decentralized evaluation report presents the key findings, conclusions and recommendation of the final evaluation of the Green Climate Fund (GCF)-funded project "Building Climate Resilience of Vulnerable and Food-Insecure Communities through Capacity Strengthening and Livelihood Diversification in Mountainous Regions of Tajikistan", (hereafter: the "GCF Project") jointly implemented by the Committee for Environmental Protection (CEP) under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan and the World Food Programme (WFP).

2. The evaluation was commissioned by the WFP Tajikistan Country Office (CO) and covered the period 13 March 2020 to 7 March 2025. The purpose of the evaluation was to independently assess the achievement of objectives and overall performance of the climate resilience project in Tajikistan against the GCF investment criteria. It also aimed to generate lessons for improving future programming, sustainability, and coordination among donors, government, and project partners.

1.1. Evaluation features

3. **The objective of the evaluation:** The evaluation was conducted in compliance with the requirements of the GCF's monitoring and accountability framework,¹ WFP corporate evaluation guidelines, and the GCF evaluation policy along with guidance provided by the OECD DAC, i.e. relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, impact and sustainability;² coherence in climate finance delivery with other multilateral entities; gender equity; country ownership of projects and programme; innovativeness in results areas (the extent to which interventions may lead to a paradigm shift towards low-emission and climate-resilient development pathways); replication and scalability – the extent to which the activities can be scaled up in other locations within the country or replicated in other countries;³ as well as unexpected results, both positive and negative. It served as an opportunity to provide an independent assessment of the relevance and achievement of project results, and drew lessons focused on improving the sustainability of benefits from the project implemented in coordination with the partners, with the aim to inform the design of future programmes. The evaluation pursues two mutually reinforcing objectives: accountability and learning. Both are given equal weight, working in tandem to strengthen the overall value and impact of the evaluation. The objectives of the evaluation were:

- To assess and report on the performance and results of the GCF project.
- To determine the reasons why certain results occurred or did not occur; to draw lessons, derive good practices and provide pointers for learning.
- To provide evidence-based findings to inform operational and strategic decision making. Findings are expected to be actively disseminated, and lessons will be incorporated into relevant lesson-sharing systems (see Annex I: Summary Terms of Reference [ToR]).

4. As detailed in Section 2, mixed-methods evaluation approach was employed by the Evaluation Team, incorporating desk reviews, key informant interviews, and focus group discussions. By combining qualitative and quantitative data, the evaluation aimed to deliver a robust analysis of the GCF project relevance, effectiveness, impact and sustainability as well as efficiency and coherence.

5. In line with GCF standards, progress towards results, relevance and country ownership, project implementation and adaptive management, scalability and replicability, and innovation and learning were

¹ GCF. Monitoring and accountability framework for accredited entities.

<https://www.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/document/monitoring-accountability-framework-ae.pdf>

² In line with GCF's environmental and social policy and WFP's environmental policy

³ This criterion is considered in document GCF/B.05/03 in the context of measuring performance and could also be incorporated in independent evaluations.

rated based on the GCF guidance on evaluation rating scale outlined in Annex 10.⁴ Impact criterion was not rated due to the complexity of assessing long-term changes of to the intervention which was implemented in a dynamic and multi-actor context and was just under finalisation at the time of the evaluation.

6. **Scope:** The evaluation covered the entirety of the project's components, outputs, and activities. It considers all beneficiary groups, including men, women, people with disabilities, and other vulnerable groups targeted by the project activities. A specific focus was placed on assessing how inclusivity and equity have been integrated into project design and implementation, ensuring that interventions address the diverse needs and priorities of different beneficiary groups. The geographic scope of the evaluation was national, with a focus on specific project interventions implemented in 11 districts, i.e., Faizobod, Nurobod, Rasht, Tojikobod, Lakhsh (Jirgatal), Khovaling, Muminobod, Rushon, Shugnon, Roshtqala, Ishkashim within the Vakhsh river-basin of Rasht valley, and Panj river-basin of Khatlon and Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Oblast (GBAO) regions.

7. **Gender and Equity:** The evaluation examined whether the project enhanced access to resources and contributed to reducing vulnerabilities, particularly for women, marginalized communities, and people with disabilities. It also assessed whether barriers to inclusion were identified and mitigated effectively and how these considerations influenced the project's outcomes. By applying a GEWE and rights-based lens, the evaluation provides insights into how resilience-building efforts could be more inclusive and sustainable in future climate adaptation programming. The evaluation has also critically assessed the extent to which gender, disability and other cross-cutting aspects were incorporated into the intervention, identifying related challenges and mitigation measures and determining good practices that can be replicated or any shortfalls that require attention.

8. **Evaluation Period:** was from January 2025 until September 2025. The evaluation process began with the revision and development of key evaluation questions and a comprehensive review of the operational environment to provide a solid understanding of the intervention. As a part of the preparation, the project theory of change (ToC) was reconstructed (Figure 8) during the inception phase to create a clear framework that linked project inputs and activities to the intended outcomes. Engagement during the inception phase with key WFP stakeholders was integral to this process.

9. The evaluation sought the views of a broad range of internal and external WFP stakeholders, including government stakeholders at national and subnational level; cooperating partners (CPs); development partners, local communities and final beneficiaries. The field data collection was conducted between March and April 2025, engaging both the core team of experts and four enumerators, who were in charge of local data collection across the above mentioned **11 districts, 30 jamoats and 68 communities** in Tajikistan, conducting the in-person interviews and focus group discussions (FGDs) (Section 2; Table 2). Ethical standards were a priority throughout the preparation and data collection phases, ensuring that participants' rights were safeguarded, and cultural sensitivities were respected during the evaluation process.

10. The expected users of this evaluation include the WFP Tajikistan CO, Asia and Pacific Regional Office (APARO), Headquarters (HQ) technical units, the GCF and the Government of Tajikistan (GoT). Other users and relevant stakeholders include beneficiaries and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). Furthermore, current and future donors and partners of WFP climate resilience-related interventions may find the report useful in terms of both accountability and learning, to help identify elements of the intervention that would need future support.

1.2. Context

General overview

11. Tajikistan is a landlocked country in the heart of Central Asia, with over 93 percent of the territory being mountains, bordered by Afghanistan to the south, Kyrgyzstan to the north, Uzbekistan to the west, and China to the east.

⁴ Rating is according GCF guidance (Annex 10, Table 8): Highly Satisfactory (HS); Satisfactory (S); Moderately Satisfactory (MS); Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU); Unsatisfactory (U); and Highly Unsatisfactory (HU)

12. The population of the country was 10.2 million in January 2024,⁵ (5.061 million men and 5.266 million women), with more than half of the population (53 percent) under the age of 25. Around 72.3 percent of the population live in rural areas. The population density in Tajikistan is 73 per km² (in 2022). The total land area is 141,400 km².⁶ More than one-third of all citizens are aged 0–14, which makes its population one of the youngest in Central Asia.⁷

13. Tajikistan is a multi-ethnic country inhabited by more than 100 different ethnic groups and peoples.⁸ According to the 2010 census, national minorities in Tajikistan were Uzbeks – 12.2 percent, Kyrgyz – 0.8 percent, Russians – 0.5 percent and other nationalities – 2.2 percent. The smallest groups of all were Poles, Moldovans and Bulgarians. Between 1989 and 2010, the proportion of Tajiks in the country's population increased significantly: from 62.3 percent in 1989 to 84.3 percent in 2010. This is due both to the high natural increase among the Tajik population and migration processes, in particular, the outflow of the Russian-speaking and Uzbek population in the post-Soviet period. Available sources do not contain data on the national composition of the population of Tajikistan after 2010.⁹ In 2021 life expectancy at birth was 71 years.¹⁰ In 2020, the fertility rate was 3.6, and the adolescent birth rate corresponded to 58 births per 1,000 women aged 15–19.¹¹

Economy

14. Following the civil war (1992–1997), Tajikistan has made continuous progress in economic growth and poverty reduction, which led to the country being classified as a lower middle-income country in 2015. The national poverty rate was reported at 20.4 percent in 2023. The country has seen significant progress in poverty reduction, with the rate decreasing from 80 percent in the 1990s to 20.4 percent in 2023.¹² Tajikistan's economy grew by 8.3 percent in 2023,¹³ supported by remittance-induced domestic demand and exports of precious metals. The economy experienced a broad-based expansion led by the agriculture sector, followed by industry, construction and services. With a per capita GDP of USD 1,189 in 2023,¹⁴ the country's economic fragility is compounded by a heavy dependence on remittances,¹⁵ making Tajikistan susceptible to global economic fluctuations and external shocks. Poverty under the lower middle-income countries (LMIC) poverty line is estimated to have declined from 12.4 percent in 2022 to 10.7 percent in 2023.¹⁶ See Figure 1 below for a Tajikistan snapshot.

⁵ <https://www.stat.tj/>

⁶ <https://www.stat.tj/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/ezhegodnik-2023.pdf>

⁷ <https://data.worldbank.org/country/tajikistan>

⁸ UN 2020. International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination.

⁹ Tajikistan population census 2010.

¹⁰ <https://data.who.int/countries/762>

¹¹ World Bank 2020. *Country profile 2020*,

https://databank.worldbank.org/views/reports/reportwidget.aspx?Report_Name=CountryProfile&Id=b450fd57&tbar=y&d_d=y&inf=n&zm=n&country=TJK, (accessed on 13 July 2021).

¹² <https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/tajikistan/overview#:~:text=By percent20national percent20standards percent20for percent20poverty,high percent20risk percent20of percent20debt percent20distress>.

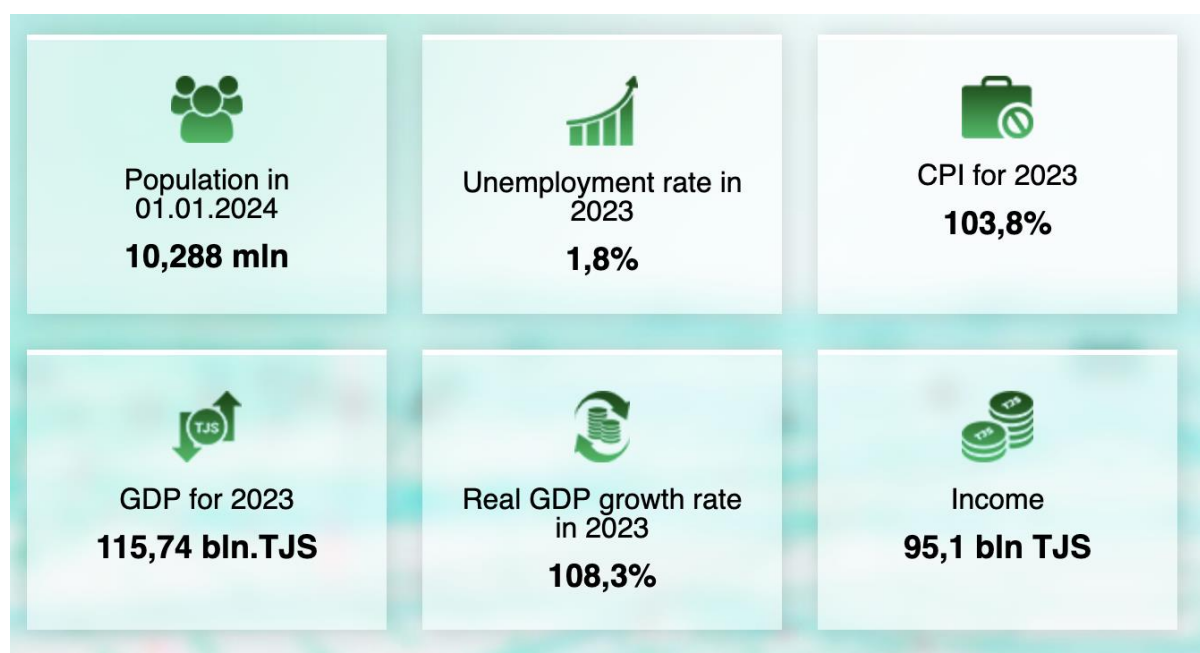
¹³ <https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/tajikistan/overview#1>

¹⁴ World Bank 2023; <https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/tajikistan/overview>

¹⁵ According to the World Bank group 'Listening 2 Tajikistan' survey, about 42 percent of households had a migrant member and the share of households receiving remittances rose marginally from 17 percent in 2022 to 18 percent in 2023.

¹⁶ <https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/tajikistan/overview#1>

Figure 1. Key macroeconomic and demographic indicators



Source: www.stat.tj/en/

Agriculture

15. Agriculture is the backbone of Tajikistan's economy, employing around 50–60 percent¹⁷ of the population and contributing a significant portion of the country's GDP. In 2022 alone, it contributed approximately 22.9 percent to the GDP.¹⁸ The majority of agricultural land is used for growing cotton, followed by wheat, fruit and vegetables.

16. According to the statistical report of the state agency (Tajstat), as of 1 January 2023, the total number of *dehkan* (farm) households listed in the register of enterprises and organizations of Tajikistan exceeded 172,000.¹⁹ In absence of national statistical data on smallholder farmers, the FAO report from 2018 noted that approximately 88 percent of Tajikistan's farmers were smallholder family farms. The most recent statistical data on women farmers, reported by the FAO, indicates that over the past decade the share of farms registered in a woman's name has nearly doubled, rising from 13 percent in 2005 to 21 percent in 2016.

17. While agriculture is the main economic sector, only 5 percent of the land is arable, of which 97 percent is subject to soil degradation.²⁰ Most agricultural output is produced on household plots, with own production generating half of rural household income.²¹ Cotton and wheat are the main cash crops, cultivated on 70 percent of the cropped area, with cotton being the main agri-commodity amounting to 16 percent of the total country exports in 2023.²²

18. The country is a net importer of food, in particular wheat, making it highly dependent on market prices. Agricultural productivity is low compared to other countries in the region. For example, yields of major crops (2.2 tons/ha for wheat, 1.7 tons/ha for cotton, and 21.9 tons/ha for potatoes) are significantly lower than Uzbekistan's yields (4.5 tons/ha for wheat, 2.3 tons/ha for cotton, and 24.5 tons/ha for potatoes), which

¹⁷ <https://www.fao.org/faostat/en/#country/208>

¹⁸ <https://data.worldbank.org/country/tajikistan>

¹⁹ <https://www.stat.tj/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/final-otchet-obs-osnovnyh-fondov.pdf>

²⁰ WFP 2019. Tajikistan. CSP 2019-2024

²¹ WFP 2017. *Climate Risks and Food Security in Tajikistan*. April 2017

²² <https://www.stat.tj/>

are low by international standards. Yields for irrigated wheat should be in the range of 5–6 tons/ha.²³

19. The low productivity in agriculture is related to the poor condition of irrigation systems: 47 percent of irrigation infrastructure has been devastated since the break-up of large state farms, affecting irrigation distribution. Domestic water infrastructure and sanitation in rural areas has also deteriorated over the past 25 years, especially at the village level.²⁴

Natural disasters, climate change and vulnerability

20. Tajikistan is highly vulnerable to the effects of climate change owing to its topography, climate and hydrological features, poor infrastructure and limited adaptation capacity, ranking first in terms of vulnerability to climate change in Europe and Central Asia.²⁵ The country is affected by severe floods, earthquakes, landslides, mudflows, avalanches, droughts and heavy snowfall. Approximately 36 percent of the country's territory is at risk of landslides and mudslides, and 30 percent of glaciers are predicted to disappear by 2050. It is estimated that the cost of environmental degradation is almost 10 percent of Tajikistan's GDP.²⁶ The social and economic impacts of such disasters are significant and disproportionately fall on poverty-stricken, vulnerable populations, particularly in rural areas with high rates of labour migration and poor provision of services, restricting their ability to improve their coping capacity, such as developing early warning systems or fostering social support and community collaboration.

21. The growing intensity and frequency of extreme weather events, fuelled by climate change, has led to substantial threats to agriculture and essential infrastructure. The majority of Tajikistan's permanent cropland, 68 percent²⁷, relies on irrigation, and the anticipated increase in glacier melt, ultimately leading to reduced river flow, further threatens the nation's agricultural output. Mountainous regions show greater dependence on agriculture and lower socioeconomic indicators overall. The cumulative effects of repeated climate-related disasters.

22. Tajikistan's relative economic exposure to natural hazard losses is particularly high and has been calculated at over 20 percent of GDP. Predicted increases in temperature will lead to a higher risk of drought, with agriculture yields predicted to drop by up to 30 percent by 2100 in some areas of the country.²⁸ As mentioned above, reliance on food imports and external market variations, vulnerability to natural disasters, limited arable land and a landlocked geographic location contribute to making Tajikistan vulnerable to such external factors.

Food security and nutrition

23. According to the 2023 Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC), nearly five million people (50 percent of the total population) are classified as being food-secure (IPC Phase 1), 3.68 million people (37 percent of the total population) are classified as Stressed (IPC Phase 2) and 1.24 million people (13 percent of the total population) are in Crisis (IPC Phase 3), whereby GBAO and Khatlon are the most food-insecure regions in the country.²⁹ The factors contributing to acute food insecurity relate to limited access to improved seeds and mechanized services, climate risks and the enduring impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic social and economic challenges as well as border closures. These factors heighten vulnerability to external shocks and stresses and also stem from them.

24. According to the food security and nutrition assessment (FSNA) conducted in December 2022 by FAO, WFP and UNICEF, 44 percent of households have experienced at least one shock over the past six months. It states that on average 33 percent of households spent between 65 to 75 percent of their income

²³ Asian Development Bank, Sector Assessment (Summary): Agriculture and Natural Resources.

<https://www.adb.org/sites/default/files/linked-documents/cps-taj-2016-2020-ssa-03.pdf>

²⁴ FAO. <http://extwprlegs1.fao.org/docs/pdf/taj189751.pdf>

²⁵ The National Strategy for Adaptation to Climate Change of the Republic of Tajikistan for the period up to 2030

²⁶ Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC) towards the achievement of the global goal of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Government of the Tajikistan

²⁷ World Bank (2024); Tajikistan Agrifood Security Policies Advice and Analytics Scaling up Climate-Smart Agriculture in Tajikistan <https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/099062724065027468/pdf/P179616-e7b14bf6-3a31-45c2-aa77-86c903400ab6.pdf>

²⁸ World Bank (2021). Climate Risk Country profile: Tajikistan.

²⁹ <https://www.ipcinfo.org/ipcinfo-website/where-what/asia/tajikistan/en/>

on food, while 21 percent spent more than 75 percent of their income on food, meaning they have very little to spend on other, non-food expenditures.

25. Despite these improvements, undernourishment remains a concern, particularly among vulnerable groups. For instance, 17.5 percent of children under five are affected by stunting, and 5.6 percent suffer from wasting.³⁰ Additionally, micronutrient deficiencies are prevalent; 38 percent of women experience iron deficiency, and 64.5 percent are iodine deficient.³¹

Gender and inclusion

26. Tajikistan is a State Party to the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and has made progress in improving gender equity, through the adoption of several laws, programmes and strategies to promote the role of women in society. Significant gender disparities remain, including in tertiary education enrolment, labour force participation and wages, intra-household decision making and control over assets. In 2020, only 24 percent of parliamentary seats were held by women.³² In 2023 labour force participation of women was 31.5 percent versus 51.1 percent for men. The estimated female-earned income is 4.5 times lower than the estimated male-earned income due to gender inequality. A female-to-male wage ratio of 60 percent and the share of the economically active female population of 37 percent (versus 63 percent for men) contribute to such a considerable gap in earned income.³³ According to the World Bank country gender assessment for Tajikistan, about 69 percent of working-age women are not in paid employment, and women's contribution to Gross National Income is 4.5 times less than that of men.³⁴

27. Both women and men are vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, with women often being disproportionately affected due to multidimensional social and economic vulnerabilities. The agriculture-based economy of Tajikistan relies heavily on women's labour. However, women, and particularly female-headed households (Figure 2), have limited access to climate-resilient agricultural practices, which are crucial for boosting productivity, especially in a country vulnerable to climate change impacts such as drought and heat stress. In 2022, the Human Development Index for women in Tajikistan was 0.647 in contrast with 0.704 for men, resulting in a GDI value of 0.919 on the Gender Development Index, placing the country well below the other countries in the region. The 2025 Human Development Report placed Tajikistan at a gender inequality index of 0.258 ranking 68 (value 2023).³⁵ Men outperform women on all HDI dimensions except for health (women's life expectancy is four and a half years greater).

28. Rural women and women farmers engage in household management, caregiving and cultivation of food for family consumption. Their work in agriculture translates only to a limited extent in further decision making on household economic matters or other areas,³⁶ including limited say in decisions regarding crop selection or income investment.³⁷ Kitchen gardens play a crucial role in ensuring food security, particularly for female-headed households, which tend to be among the poorest, with limited capacity to cope with or recover from climate change-related losses.

29. According to UN Women data, 19 percent of women aged 15–49 years reported in 2017 that they had been subject to physical and/or sexual violence by a current or former intimate partner in the previous 12 months. Women of reproductive age (aged 15–49 years) often face barriers with respect to their sexual and reproductive health and rights, with 44.8 percent of women who were able to access modern family

30 https://globalnutritionreport.org/resources/nutrition-profiles/asia/central-asia/tajikistan/?utm_source=chatgpt.com

31 https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC7083412/?utm_source=chatgpt.com

32 <https://www.stat.tj/en/>

33 World Bank. Tajikistan Country Gender Assessment

34 World Bank, Tajikistan: Country Gender Assessment 2021, <https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/tajikistan/publication/country-gender-assessment>

35 <https://hdr.undp.org/gender-development-index#/indicies/GDI>;

https://hdr.undp.org/sites/default/files/2025_HDR/HDR25_Statistical_Annex_GII_Table.pdf

36 International Food Policy Research Institute,

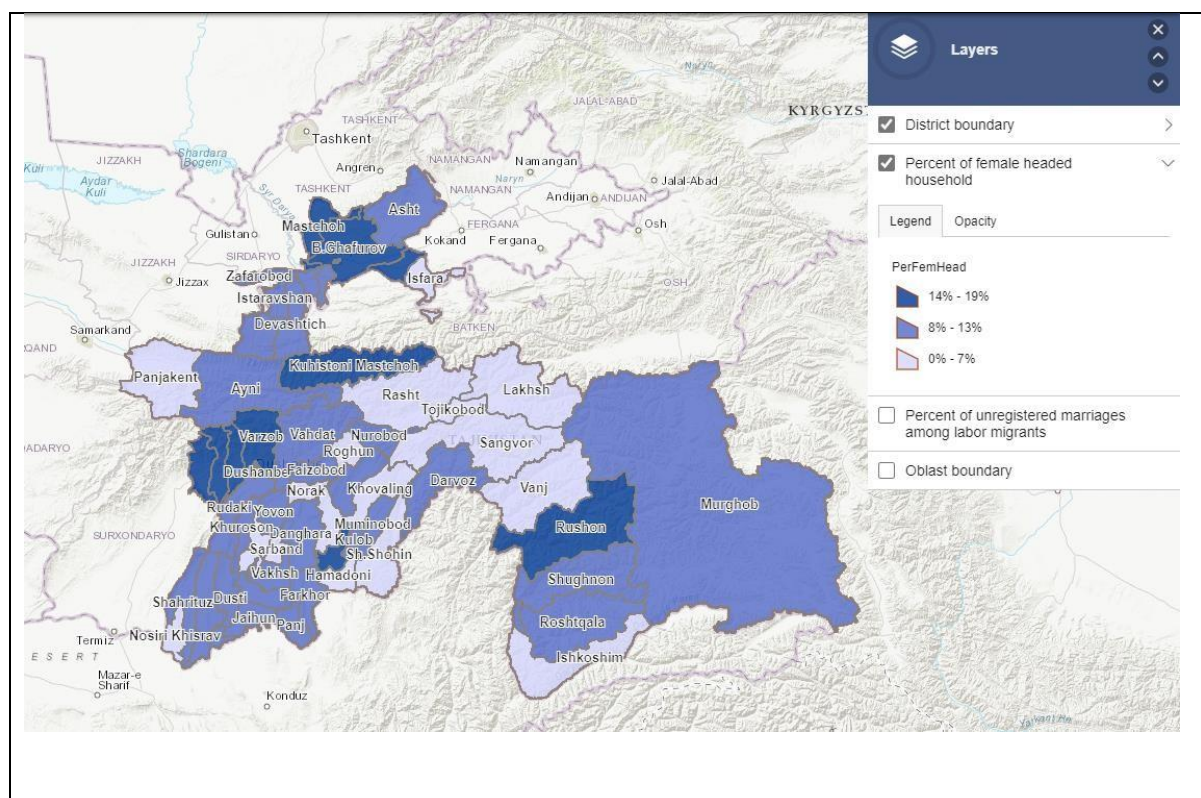
<https://www.ifpri.org/blog/tajikistan-women-contribute-significantly-agriculture-does-agricultural-work-contribute#:~:text=Women percent20account percent20for percent20nearly percent20half,gender percent20differentiation percent20in percent20crop percent20marketing.>

37 FAO. https://www.fao.org/europe/resources/stories/details/Empowering-women-to-help-achieve-global-goal-of-ZeroHunger/en?utm_source=chatgpt.com

planning services satisfied with modern methods in 2012.³⁸ Although marriage below 18 years is officially outlawed, 13 percent of 15–19-year-old girls were married in 2017 according to the DHS,³⁹ and the adolescent birth rate per 1,000 girls aged 15–19 was 54 in 2020, constituting the highest rate in the Eastern European and Central Asia region.⁴⁰ Religious unions without secular registration tend to be used as a means to circumvent penalties.

30. According to the Agency for Social Insurance and Pension Provision under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan, as of 1 April 2022 the number of disabled people in Tajikistan is 154,459, of which 16,981 belong to group I, 76,160 to group II, and 33,379 to group III.⁴¹ The number of disabled children under the age of 18 is 31,939.⁴²

Figure 2. Percentage of women-headed households in Tajikistan



Source: Vulnerability and Resilience Atlas for Tajikistan (accessed 3 Feb 2021)

National strategies and policies

31. [National Development Strategy \(NDS\) 2030](#) serves as the long-term and overarching document outlining the country's development vision, goals and priorities, with the aim to improve the living standards of Tajikistan's population by fostering sustainable economic development based on productive private investment and exports. This objective is underpinned by four strategic development goals: (a) ensuring energy security and efficiency of energy use, (b) improving digital and transport connectivity and utilizing Tajikistan's transit potential, (c) ensuring food security and access to quality nutrition for the population, and

³⁸ UN Women, *Country factsheet*. <https://data.unwomen.org/country/tajikistan>, (accessed 23 July 2021).

³⁹ Statistical Agency under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan, the Ministry of Health and MEASURE DHS. 2017.

⁴⁰ UNFPA 2021. *World Population Dashboard*, <https://www.unfpa.org/data/world-population-dashboard>, (accessed 23 July 2021).

⁴¹ According to international classification, there are three degrees of disability (Group I, II, and III) as determined by the medical and social examination procedure in Tajikistan. See: http://portali-huquqi.tj/publicadliya/view_qonunhoview.php?showdetail=&asosi_id=25971

⁴² <http://nafaka.tj/en>

(d) expanding productive employment.

32. Complementing the NDS, the government has adopted the Green Economy Development Strategy (GEDS) for 2023–37 and is working towards a national adaptation plan aiming at water and energy security; creating more and better jobs; increasing productivity; adapting to climate change; and laying the foundations for a resilient, low-carbon power sector.

33. The **National Strategy for Adaptation to Climate Change (NSACC)** until 2030 was approved in October 2019, and focused on four sectors that are both climate-sensitive and priorities for development: 1) energy; 2) water resources; 3) transport; and 4) agriculture, and includes seven cross-sectoral areas: 1) health; 2) education; 3) gender; 4) youth; 5) migration; 6) environment; and 7) emergencies. The NSACC also considers the international obligations of Tajikistan on Agenda XXI and the SDGs, focusing on climate change.

34. **Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) under the Paris Agreement.** Tajikistan formally communicated its intended NDCs under the Paris Agreement in 2015, and ratified its NDC in 2017. The updated information on Tajikistan NDCs consists of mitigation contributions to be implemented by its own efforts and conditional contributions that rely on adequate international financial and technical support, technology transfer as well as capacity building. The supporting package aims to accelerate the mitigation efforts and adaptation practice in Tajikistan. The unconditional contribution (NDC) to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in Tajikistan is to not exceed 60–70 percent of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions as of 1990 (which is the reference year) by 2030. The conditional contribution (NDC), subject to significant international funding and technology transfer, is not to exceed 50–60 percent of 1990 GHG emissions by 2030.

35. **The Committee for Environmental Protection (CEP)** is the authorized policymaking and coordination body for climate change-related activities. It oversees the use of natural resources and the protection of land, minerals, forests, water and other resources. It collaborates with national and international partners to implement policies and initiatives related to climate change, biodiversity and natural resource management. CEP also oversees the work of the Agency for Hydrometeorology, which is responsible for leading the preparation of national communications to the UNFCCC and preparing GHG inventories. The agency also provides climate and weather information and forecasting.

36. The government presented its first voluntary national review (VNR) at the high-level political forum in 2017, and progressed on SDGs as shown in Figure 3,⁴³ with full achievement of SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy) and SDG 13 (Climate Action). However, significant challenges remain in achieving SDG 2 (Zero Hunger), despite the fact that the proportion of the population suffering from hunger was reduced from 40.1 percent in 2001 to 8.7 percent in 2022. The number of undernourished people in the country declined from 2.6 million in 2001 to 0.9 million in 2022.⁴⁴

37. Tajikistan has received substantial international assistance aimed at fostering development across various sectors, including significant efforts to address climate change. In July 2024 the Asian Development Bank (ADB) approved a USD 50 million policy-based grant to help Tajikistan foster a climate-responsive business environment and support small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs),⁴⁵ while 73 percent of ADB's ongoing projects in Tajikistan include climate change mitigation or adaptation measures, such as climate-proofed infrastructure, green buildings, energy efficiency, early warning systems and tree planting.⁴⁶

38. Since 1993 the World Bank has invested over USD 2 billion to support Tajikistan's efforts to reduce poverty and improve living standards.⁴⁷ In November 2024 the World Bank released the Tajikistan country climate and development report, highlighting climate action as an opportunity to rejuvenate the economy, create jobs and protect citizens from extreme weather events.⁴⁸ USAID's energy initiatives, including the Power Central Asia project, assisted Tajikistan in utilizing its energy resources to reduce greenhouse gas

43 <https://dashboards.sdgindex.org/profiles/tajikistan>

44 <https://tajikistan.un.org/en/sdgs/2/progress>

45 https://www.adb.org/news/50-million-adb-grant-support-climate-friendly-business-environment-tajikistan?utm_source=chatgpt.com

46 https://www.adb.org/where-we-work/tajikistan?utm_source=chatgpt.com

47 https://ida.worldbank.org/en/country/tajikistan?utm_source=chatgpt.com

48 <https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/tajikistan/publication/ccdr>

emissions and promote energy efficiency.⁴⁹

Figure 3. Progress under SDGs in Tajikistan



Source: <https://dashboards.sdindex.org/profiles/TJK>

1.3. Subject being evaluated

39. The "Building Climate Resilience of Vulnerable and Food-Insecure Communities through Capacity Strengthening and Livelihood Diversification in Mountainous Regions of Tajikistan" project was initiated under the funded activity agreement (FAA) between the WFP Tajikistan CO and the GCF. The agreement was signed on 13 March 2020 for a planned duration of four years, with an expected completion in September 2024. The agreement was amended with a start effective on 7 September 2020. In July 2024 the GCF approved WFP Tajikistan CO's request for a six-month, no-cost extension, extending the project's duration until 7 March 2025.

40. The **project's strategic objectives** were aligned with the NDS 2030 and the NSACC and aimed to adopt an integrated approach to enhancing food security and supporting communities adapting to climate change. It focused on capacity strengthening and awareness-raising among food-insecure, climate-vulnerable communities and national stakeholders. Additionally, it promoted resilience-building at the household and community levels through livelihood diversification and improved market access. The project outcomes highlighted in the Funding Activity Agreement (FAA) include:

- National and local institutions use improved climate information for adaptation planning and implementation of more climate-responsive governance and investments. Informed decision making reduces climate-related risks for households.
- Diversified livelihoods and sustainable practices reduce vulnerability to climate shocks.
- Improved water systems, resilient infrastructure, and market linkages enhance food security and economic stability.

49 https://tj.usembassy.gov/embassy/dushanbe/sections-offices/usaid-tajikistan/?utm_source=chatgpt.com

- Women and girls have increased decision-making power regarding food security and nutrition in households, communities and society.

41. The project's immediate outcomes included the following: Hydromet generates accurate and tailored climate information; line ministries, NGOs and communities access and utilize timely, relevant climate information; district authorities adopt and implement climate-resilient development strategies; farmers and women's groups engage in sustainable and diversified agricultural practices; communities and farmers gain improved access to reliable water for household use and farming; farmers and smallholders enhance their ability to apply climate-resilient food production, storage and renewable energy solutions; and farmers and smallholders strengthen their connections to value chains and markets.

Project components

42. The project had two components. Component 1 focused on capacity strengthening and awareness raising for enhanced rural resilience and food security, while Component 2 emphasized resilience building at household and community level through livelihood diversification and value chain development. WFP climate change adaptation activities focused on creating sustainable, productive assets for food-insecure beneficiaries, including both men and women, at the community level (Table 1 and Annex 6).

Table 1. Overview of Project components and interventions

Component 1: Capacity strengthening and awareness raising of food insecure climate vulnerable communities and national actors for enhanced rural resilience and food security	
Outputs	Activities
Output 1.1. Climate and weather products improved and tailored to the needs of vulnerable food insecure communities through increased capacity of Hydromet	Activity 1.1.1 Capacity Building of the Hydromet, on Data Rescue (DaRe) (digitalization) and climate data management systems. Activity 1.1.2 Capacity building of the Hydromet, including on risk mapping and GIS tools, to generate monthly and seasonal climate forecasts and to monitor crop and pasture conditions.
Output 1.2. Locally relevant delivery mechanisms for the provision of tailored climate and weather information through relevant ICTs identified and piloted	Activity 1.2.1 Development of ICT mechanisms for provision of tailored climate services. Activity 1.2.2 Provision of climate information to farmers (radio/TV/SMS).
Output 1.3. Decision making in vulnerable households enhanced through improved capacities to interpret and act on tailored climate advisories	Activity 1.3.1 Development of relevant PICSA Training of Trainers manuals and materials, tailored on the Tajikistan context by the University of Reading. Activity 1.3.2 Training of Trainers (local NGOS, District Government Officials, and selected community members) to allow for the roll out of the PICSA approach in all target districts.
Output 1.4. Improved community capacities and awareness on climate change impacts on health and nutrition	Activity 1.4.1 Community awareness raising trainings on climate risk management measures, climate advisories, health and nutrition risks.
Output 1.5. Publications of lessons learnt, and best practices compiled and disseminated	Activity 1.5.1 Exchange visits from adjacent communities, lessons learned and awareness raising. Activity 1.5.2. Dissemination of publications on lessons learnt & best practices. Activity 1.5.3. National conference to inform policy development based on lessons learnt.

Output 1.6: Adaptation plans integrated at District Development Committees (DDC) with full participation of community members and local authorities	Activity 1.6.1 Review of district plans with local authorities. Activity 1.6.2. Development of 11 district plans integrating climate change adaptation.
Component 2: Resilience building at household and community level through diversification of livelihoods and establishment of value chains for market access	
Output 2.1: Climate change adaptation supported through diversification of livelihoods.	Activity 2.1.1: Establishment of orchards and other agroforestry activities for soil/water conservation and food production covering an area of 600 ha across 185 villages. Activity 2.1.2: Capacity building to women groups on livelihood activities related to agroforestry and agriculture (fruit/vegetable storage/drying, processing, and marketing).
Output 2.2: Improved water management for drinking water and small-scale irrigation.	Activity 2.2.1: Rehabilitation and/or replacement of drinking water supply system (pipelines, water tanks, wind water pumps). Activity 2.2.2: Rehabilitation of irrigation systems (canal cleaning, pipeline rehabilitation/installation, drip irrigation).
Output 2.3: Provision of and training to utilize greenhouses, renewable energy and climate-proof post-harvest storage facilities established to withstand long-term climate change.	Activity 2.3.1: Installation of up to 112 climate-proof storage facilities and training. Activity 2.3.2: Installation of 400 polycarbonate climate-proof greenhouses with solar panels in 64 villages and training. Activity 2.3.3: Provision of 400 solar fruit dryers and training. Activity 2.3.4: Installation of 400 solar cookers and training.
Output 2.4: Household resilience and adaptive capacity of climate vulnerable poor in target areas improved.	Activity 2.4.1: Provision of market information including market locations, demand for commodities, prices etc. to 500 Dehkan Farms. Activity 2.4.2: Training of 500 Dehkan Farms and information sharing to better link local production with markets and supply chain

Source: Project documents

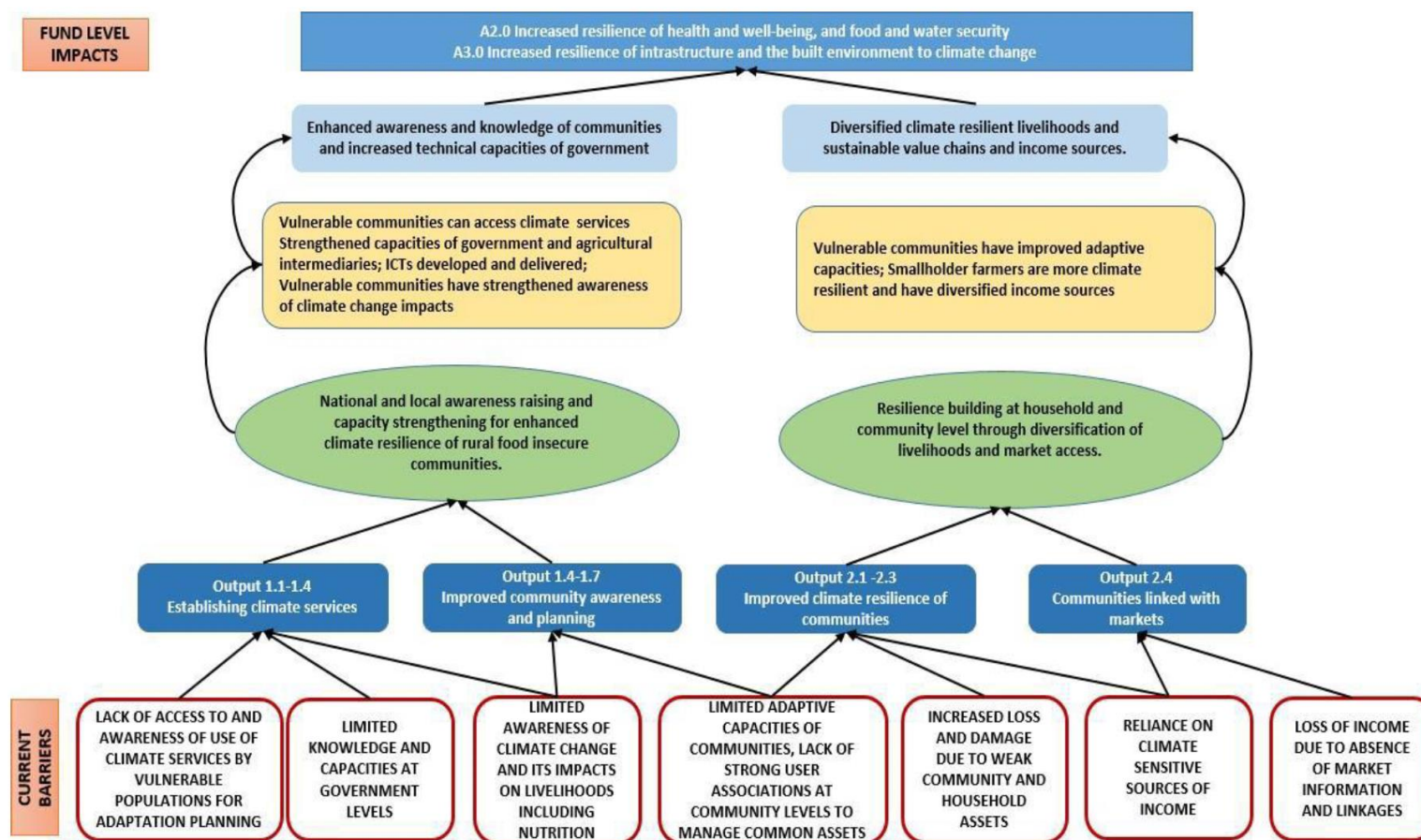
43. Given the prolonged initiation and approval phase, the initial project proposal was refined and updated to reflect the context and be more tailor-made to respond to the needs. The updated Inception Report retained its core focus under Component 1 on strengthening the institutional and technical capacity of the Hydromet Agency, sustaining ICT-based climate information delivery systems, and expanding the application of the PICSA approach to improve community-level decision-making. Training activities were refocused to address practical needs to enhance capacity for operational use of PERSONA MIS and continued utilization of tools like Cliware. The project also prioritized the institutionalization and handover of the ICT system to national authorities, while maintaining NGO support to ensure continuity. Furthermore, efforts were enhanced to document and disseminate lessons learned, promote policy engagement through a national dialogue, and integrate adaptation planning into District Development Plans (DDP) through inclusive and participatory processes.

44. Under Component 2, core focus was retained on promoting climate change adaptation through livelihood diversification, improved water management, and resilient infrastructure for food production and storage (e.g., establishing orchards and agroforestry for soil conservation and income generation, warehousing, fencing and redirecting budgets to enhance sustainability). Water supply and irrigation rehabilitation proceeded with minor scope adjustments, prioritizing solar-powered systems. The design of greenhouses was upgraded for climate resilience and shifted to household-level use, while solar panels were

repurposed for summer-season irrigation rather than winter heating. Cash-for-training (FFT) replaced manual work modalities, with capacity building provided for greenhouse, dryer, and biodigester use. Additionally, the project sustained support for smallholder Dehkan farms through market access information and training to improve climate-resilient production and linkages to supply chains.

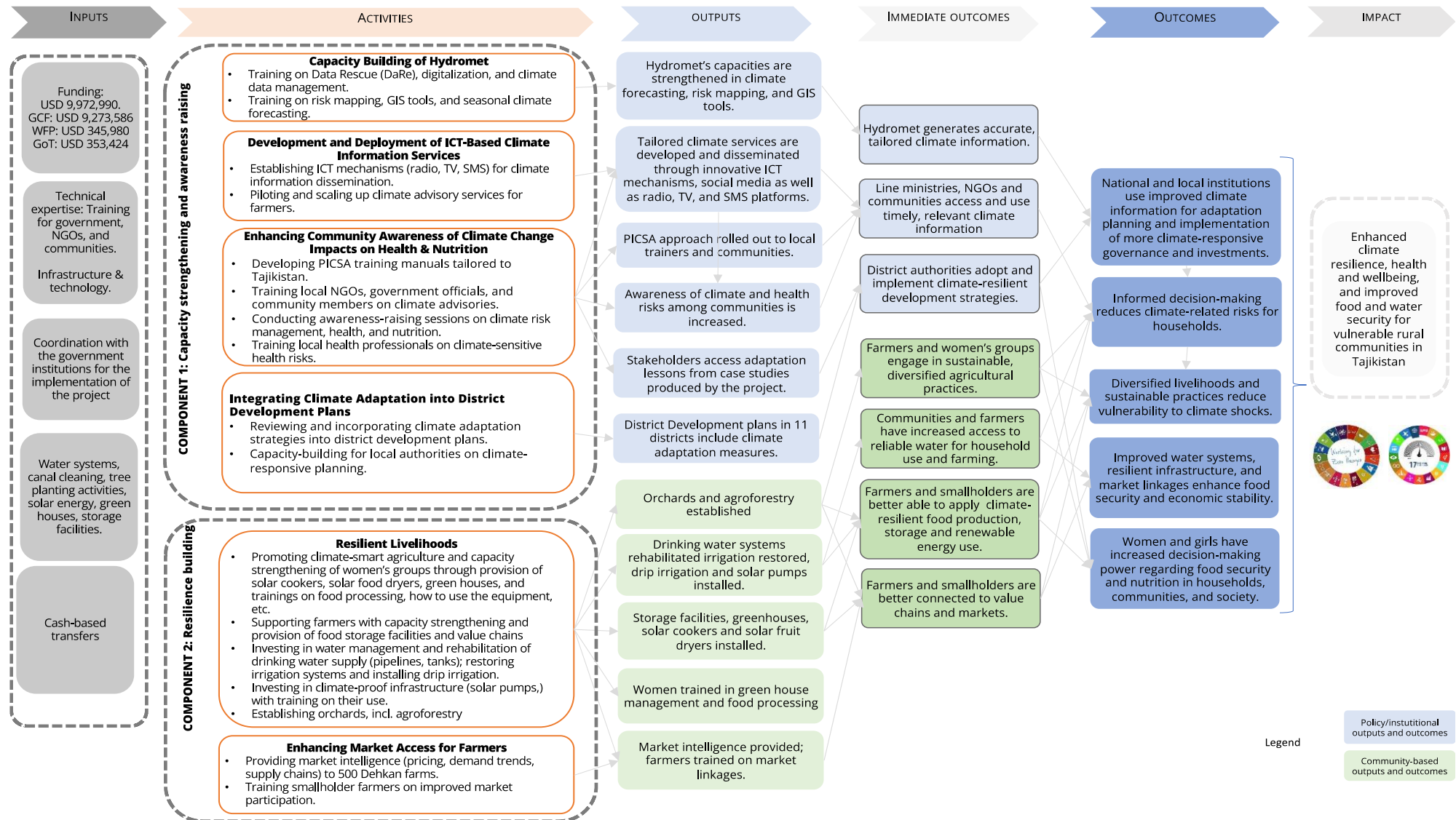
45. The ET, in close consultation with the WFP CO, reviewed and reconstructed the project's ToC to ensure it accurately reflected the full scope of project's activities, outcomes, underlying assumptions, and contextual factors that emerged during implementation. This refinement helped account for changes in the external environment, evolving government partnerships, and shifts in operational priorities, as well as to provide a robust framework for assessing the project's effectiveness, sustainability, and alignment with its intended objectives. The original project ToC is shown in Figure 7, and the revised version is presented in Figure 8. Assumptions are presented in Figure 13 (Annex 6). A dedicated workshop held on 29 January 2025 with WFP CO staff ensured that the reconstructed ToC remained aligned with the overarching goals and strategic direction of the project.

Figure 4: Original project theory of change



Source: Terms of Reference for the Final Evaluation, GCF-funded Project WFP Tajikistan Country Office, July

Figure 5: Reconstructed intervention logic



Assumptions

input – output

- Proactive engagement from government stakeholders.
- Availability of financial and human resources
- Adequate funding, technical resources, and capacity-building activities are delivered on time and are aligned with project goals.
- Availability and capacity of partners for implementation of project activities.
- No major environmental disruptions (e.g., natural disasters) that could derail infrastructure projects or training initiatives.
- Continued political support to the project approach and interventions.
- Availability and capacity of Financial Service providers to implement CBTs.
- Nation and subnational policies and regulation in Tajikistan support the land management and investment in water infrastructure, irrigation and agriculture (e.g., Decrees of District authorities for orchards, irrigation, etc.).

output – outcome

- National commitment to strengthen policies and practices in terms of climate information and to integrate climate adaptation strategies into planning processes and to monitor implementation.
- Steering Committee bringing together ministries and national institutions is established and supports the implementation of climate change measures, livelihood investments and asset creation.
- Institutions and farmers remain open to and are willing/available to participate/attend Capacity strengthening initiatives.
- Levels of political stability that do not deteriorate - no national disasters or other types of disruption.
- The farmers have basic knowledge on how to maintain/run their assets to improve crop production.

outcome – impact

- Climate shocks do not significantly disrupt the progress made through improved livelihoods and resilience-building measures.
- The national and regional economies remain stable enough to support market linkages and income growth.
- Access to markets and local/regional value chains is uninterrupted and continuously enhanced.
- Reduced risks of specific shocks and stressors that tend to disproportionately affect the most vulnerable, women, adolescent girls, and children.

Source: Evaluation Team

46. The input-to-outcome level assumptions focused on ensuring that the necessary conditions are in place for effective implementation. The delivery of the project assumed that government stakeholders remained engaged, that financial and technical resources remained available, and implementing partners continued to have the required capacity. Political stability and regulatory support were expected to sustain investments in land, water and agriculture. Additionally, the project's intervention logic assumed that no major environmental disruptions would hinder project activities and that farmers and institutions were willing to participate in capacity-building efforts. A well-coordinated steering committee was expected to guide and support implementation.

47. At the output-to-outcome level the project assumed that, during implementation, climate shocks would not significantly undermine the progress made in building climate resilience and improving livelihoods. True resilience implied the ability to withstand, cope with, and adapt to such shocks and stressors. Therefore, a key assumption was that the project's activities actively mitigated the impacts of specific climate shocks and stressors, rather than merely assuming their absence. A stable national and regional economy was also deemed essential for sustaining market linkages and enabling income growth, while uninterrupted access to markets and local value chains was necessary for smallholder farmers to maximize the benefits of their improved agricultural and financial practices.

48. Finally, at the outcome-to-impact level, the project assumed that the risks of climate shocks and stressors, particularly those that disproportionately affect vulnerable groups such as women, adolescent girls, and children, would be reduced through the interventions. These assumptions provided the foundation for the project logic, highlighting the necessary conditions for achieving long-term resilience, food and water security, and economic stability for rural communities in Tajikistan (See Figure 13 Assumptions in Annex 6).

Project coverage

49. The project coverage was national, and targeted 348 villages in 11 targeted districts, i.e., Faizobod, Nurobod, Rasht, Tojikobod, Lakhsh (Jirgatal), Khovaling, Muminobod, Rushon, Shugnon, Roshtqala, Ishkashim within the Vakhsh river basin of Rasht valley, and Panj river basin of Khatlon and Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Oblast (GBAO) regions. The criteria for selection of communities were i) high vulnerability to climate change and ii) high food insecurity profiles.

50. **Beneficiaries:** The project proposal targeted a total of 52,000 direct beneficiaries and 70,000 indirect beneficiaries, totalling 120,000 beneficiaries from among the estimated 270,000 vulnerable individuals residing in the targeted districts. By the end of the project, the targets were surpassed, with 52,512 direct beneficiaries (101 percent) and 71,335 indirect beneficiaries (102 percent) reached. For both direct and indirect female beneficiaries, the project remained below the targeted 50 percent threshold (see Figure 6). The beneficiaries included farmers and pastoralists facing insecurity and the adverse effects of climate change. Beneficiary selection was based on the following criteria: food insecurity, poverty and vulnerability within the communities; commitment to contribute time and resources to maintain the assets; willingness to participate in asset creation and capacity-building activities; and existing livelihood activities. Table 2: Beneficiary information per direct and planned and targeted villages below provides a detailed breakdown of the coverage and planned direct and indirect beneficiaries by district and *Jamoat* (3rd level administrative division) and the number of targeted villages. Updated data from the mid-term review is provided in Annex 9.

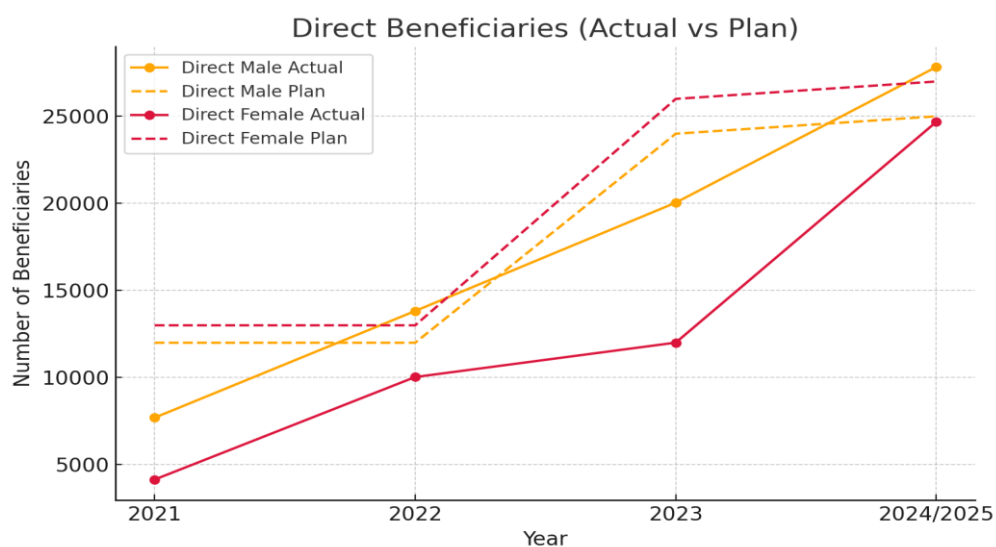
Table 2: Beneficiary information per direct and planned and targeted villages

Region	# of direct beneficiaries	District	Jamoat	Targeted villages	# of direct beneficiaries
DRS	23,490	Faizobod	Buston	5	2132
			Mehrobod	15	1893
			Vashgird	4	1368
		Nurobod	Mujikharf	15	3931

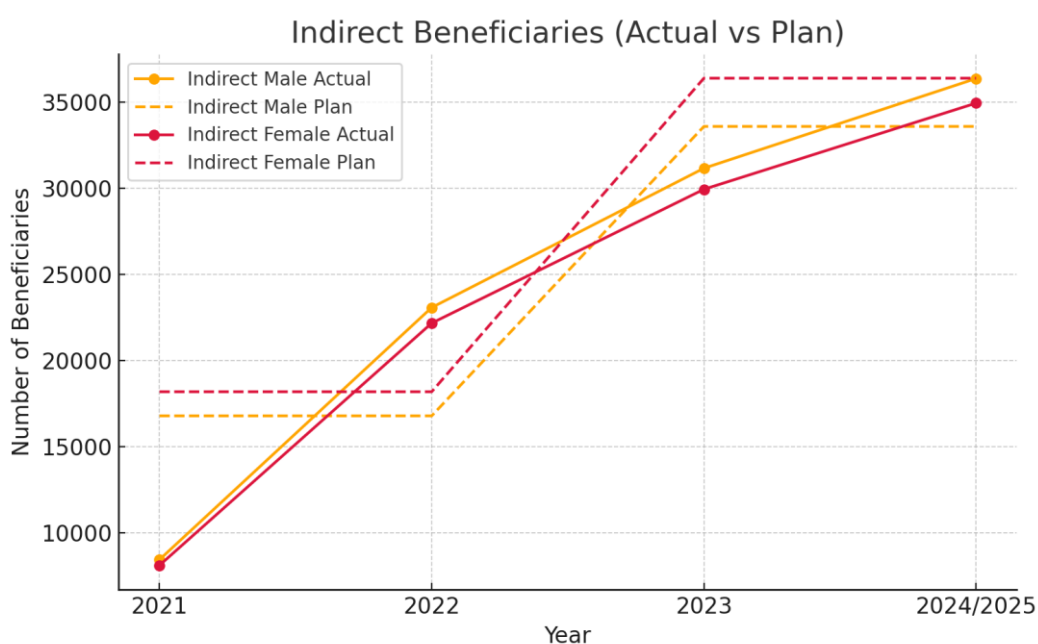
Region	# of direct beneficiaries	District	Jamoat	Targeted villages	# of direct beneficiaries
		Rasht	Khumdon	10	2579
			Navdi	11	2557
			Yasmand	14	1330
		Tojikobod	Langari Shoh	13	2335
			Nushor	10	2475
		Jirgotol	Pildon	8	1716
			Alga	7	1144
Khatlon	10,940	Khovaling	Jombakht	13	3172
			Sari-Osiyob	13	2236
		Muminobod	Kulchashma	27	3786
			Dehibaland	16	2184
GBAO	15,570	Rushon	Savnob	10	728
			Basid	4	364
			Bartang	8	437
			Center - Rushan	6	1144
		Shugnon	Yankala	15	1456
			Ver	7	967
			Navobod	8	1196
			Suchon	13	1560
			Porshinev (injonov)	15	2028
		Roshtqala	Segd	22	936
			Barvoz	17	541
			Gadoallev K	11	697
		Ishkashim	Zamirov	8	468
			Yuhekov	12	1570
			Ptup	6	696
			Zong	5	1404

Source: Evaluation TOR

Figure 6: Reached direct and Indirect beneficiaries by year and sex, 2021–2025



Source: Project Monitoring data 2021–2025



Source: Project Monitoring data 2021–2025

Table 3. CBT Transfers by District, Gender and Transfer Cash Value (Tajikistani Somoni)

District	Female	Male	Grand Total	Transferred cash value, USD
Aini	4	31	35	19,097
Fayzobod	468	1223	1691	1,731,497
Ishkashim	450	1115	1565	944,502
Khovaling	168	671	839	1,130,980
Lakhsh	179	724	903	1,200,712

District	Female	Male	Grand Total	Transferred cash value, USD
Muminobod	492	702	1194	1,291,875
Nurobod	292	626	918	1,221,491
Rasht	324	736	1060	1,376,026
Roshtkala	155	585	740	393,456
Rushon	168	862	1030	568,611
Shugnon	458	1218	1676	1,041,221
Tajikobod	355	559	914	1,233,861
Vahdat		7	7	11,478
Grand Total	3513	9059	12,572	12,164,813

Source: CBT transfers 20220-2024, WFP

51. The **primary government partners** included the CEP, the Ministry of Agriculture, ALRI, and the Agency of Hydrometeorology, CES, as well as local authorities. The project also collaborated with UN agencies, development partners and stakeholders (a detailed stakeholder analysis is provided in Annex 2).

52. WFP acted as an accredited entity (AE) as well as the co-executing entity (co-EE) for specific portions of the project, while the CEP acted as the executing entity (EE). CEP was accountable to WFP for managing the project, including the monitoring and validation of project interventions, achieving project outcomes, and for the effective use of resources. WFP developed the project document in consultation with the CEP and other stakeholders involved. WFP was also responsible for managing the funds from GCF and quarterly advance disbursements against agreed work plans to a project account managed by the EE. WFP ensured the quality of the project deliverables, fiduciary risk management, progress monitoring, results monitoring, 7 analysis and reporting to GCF.

Gender responsive implementation

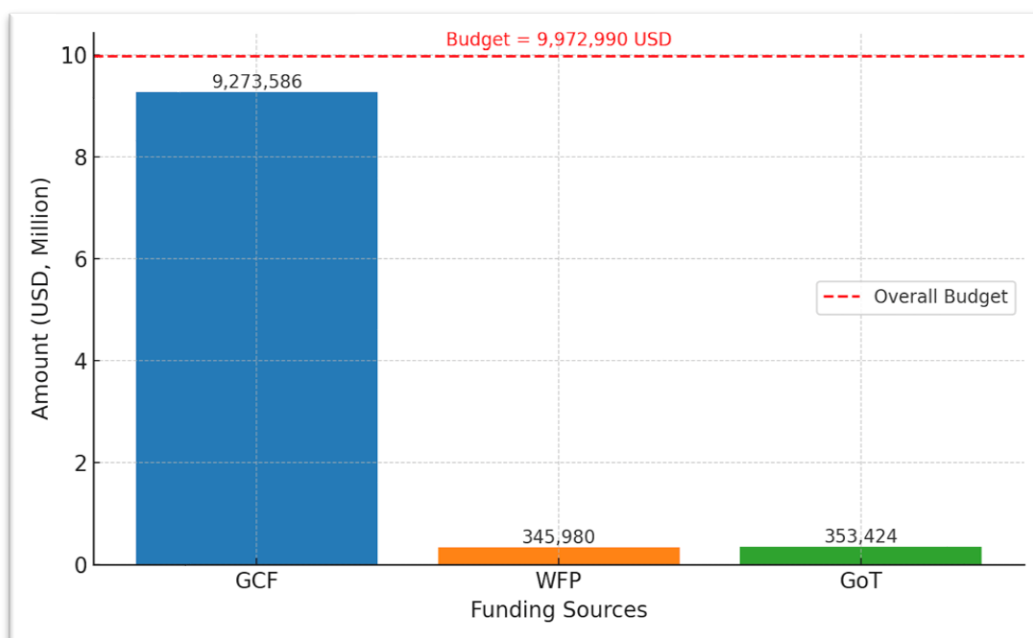
53. The integrated gender-sensitive design, implementation and monitoring through: i) sex and age disaggregation of all data collected throughout project implementation; ii) the embedding of gender analysis in all monitoring activities, assessments, technical assistance, knowledge management and related work; iii) the mainstreaming of gender across capacity-strengthening initiatives, such as training for women farmer groups; and iv) the engagement of women and men in an empowering manner that fostered equitable outcomes and advanced gender equality.

54. The Project Gender Action Plan (GAP) (2022) aimed to enhance the climate resilience of vulnerable, food-insecure communities, focusing on women and girls. The plan highlighted specific GEWE-related activities under two components of the project with indicators, targets, timelines, responsibilities, and associated budget.

Project budget and expenditures

55. The total project budget was USD 9,972,990, with contributions from the GCF amounting to USD 9,273,586 the WFP providing USD 345,981, and the Government of Tajikistan USD 353,424 (Figure 7).

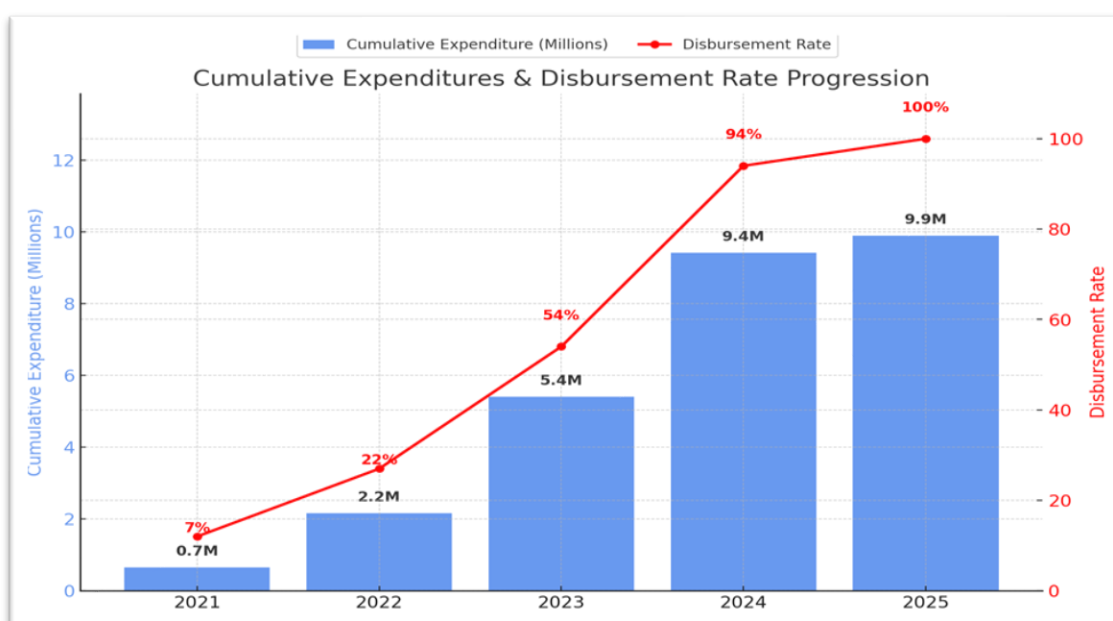
Figure 7. Overall budget



Source: FAA between WFP and GCF

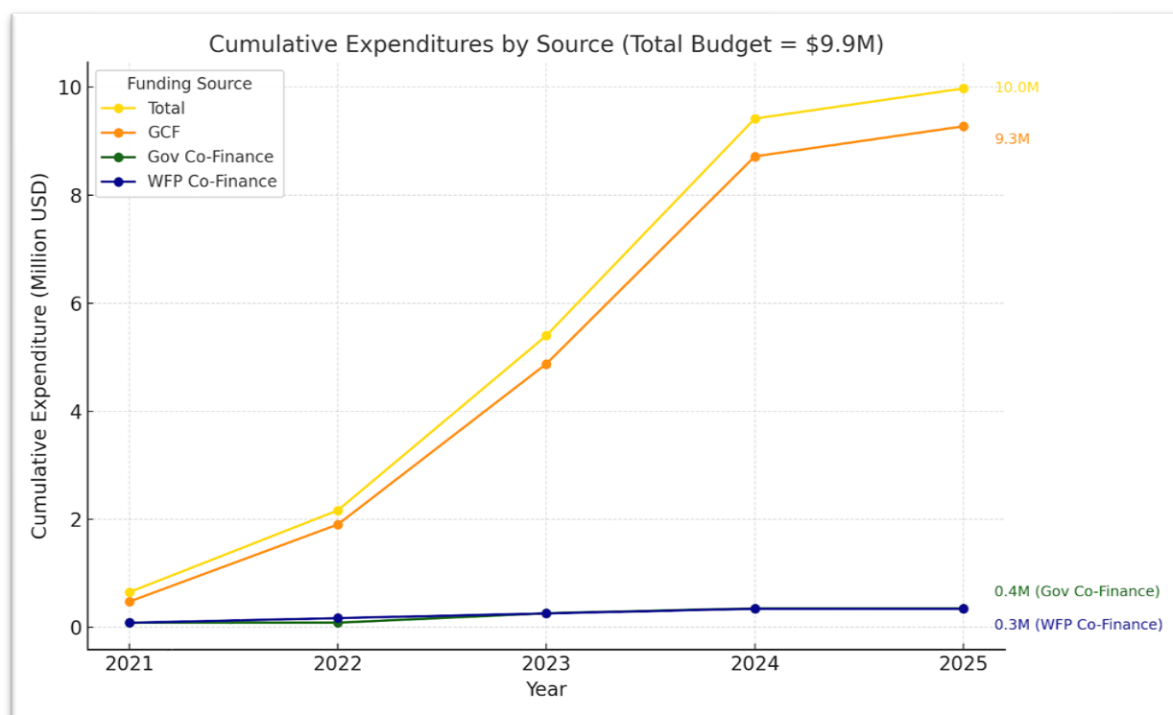
56. Figure 8 below illustrates the cumulative expenditure and disbursement rate by year. Expenditures were tracked on an annual basis; however, no specific annual targets for disbursement or expenditure were established. Cumulative expenditure rose significantly from USD 653,296 in 2021 to USD 9,972,990 million in 2025 over the five-year period. Concurrently, the annual disbursement rate increased from 7 percent in 2021 to 100 percent in 2025, reflecting enhanced efficiency in fund utilization each year. Notably, 70 percent of the overall budget was expended in 2023 and 2024 alone, while co-financing was spent evenly (Figure 9).

Figure 8. Cumulative expenditure and disbursement rate, 2021–2025



Source: WFP, May 2025

Figure 9. Cumulative expenditure by source 2021–2025

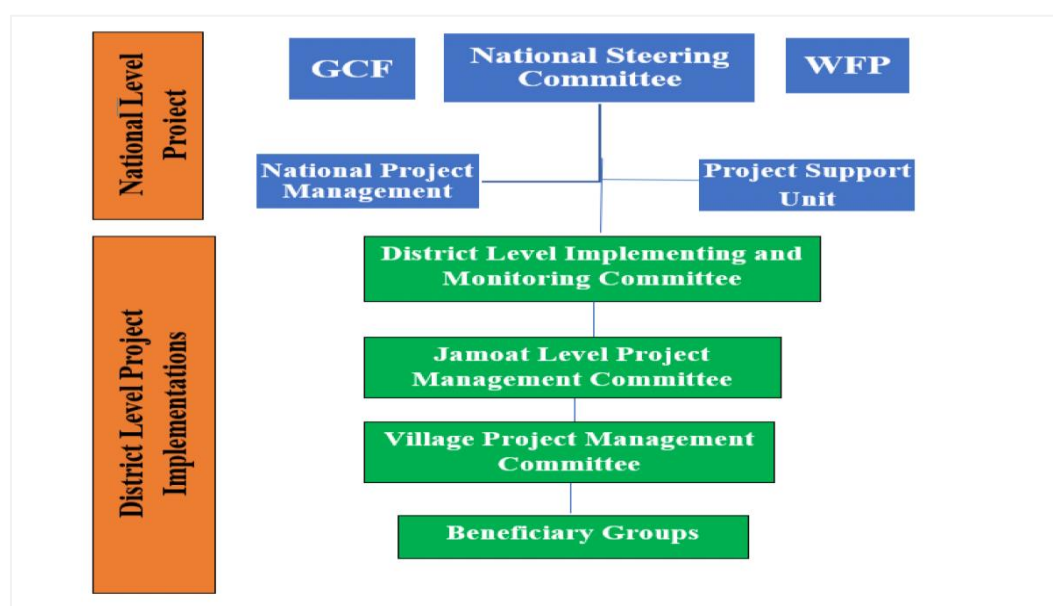


Source: WFP, May 2025

Project structure

57. The Project was implemented under the Country Strategic Plan 2023-2026 (CSP) Strategic Objective 1 (Resilience). Primary responsibility for the quality implementation of the project was on the CO and CEP, with HQ/RB assistance and oversight and quality assurance of the project, including ensuring effective use of project funds according to agreements made with the GCF. A detailed overview of the project structure is depicted in Figure 10.

Figure 10: Project steering structure



Source: Terms of Reference for the Final Evaluation, GCF-funded Project WFP Tajikistan Country Office, July 2024

Project governance structure

58. A national steering committee (NSC) was created for the project. The NSC was responsible for making, by consensus, management decisions when the project manager required guidance. This was as per the signed agreement and various clauses of the project document signed between WFP and GCF, and the subsidiary agreement signed between WFP and CEP. NSC decisions were supposed to be made in accordance with standards that ensure management for development results, best value for money, equity, integrity, and effective international competition. The NSC advisory body comprised the Hydromet Agency, the CES and Civil Defence, the Agency of Land Reclamation and Irrigation, the Forestry Agency and WFP. In case a consensus could not be reached within the NSC, the final decision would rest with the WFP.

Project Support Unit

59. The project support unit (PSU) was established within CEP's implementation group and was responsible for project management and planning at the national level. It comprised the project manager, CEP and support staff, as well as technical experts. The project manager ran the project on a day-to-day basis on behalf of CEP. The project manager was responsible for day-to-day management and decision making for the project, ensuring that the project produced the results specified in the project document to the required quality standard and within the specified parameters of time and cost.

District-Level Implementing and Monitoring Committee

60. A district-level GCF project implementation and coordination committee (hereafter district-level implementing and monitoring committee) was established at each district level for smooth implementation of the project under the chairmanship of the head of the district. The head of the district was the overall coordinator of the project at the district level, working with other district-level authorities within the district administration.

The Project Management Committee (PMC)

61. The project management committees (PMC) were set up in every *Jamoat*/village and was composed of up to seven members, including the head of the committee. Half of the committee members are supposed to be women. Under the project's Component 1, the representatives of the executive entity trained committee members on their roles and responsibilities and shared the project management committee report with the relevant WFP sub-office. The committee's role was to ensure that the proposed activities were implemented as planned. It also ensured the project targeted the most vulnerable food-insecure families.

62. The Project underwent a mid-term review (MTR) in September 2023 (See Annex 9), and this evaluation takes into account the findings, conclusions and recommendations of the MTR.

1.4. Evaluation methodology, limitations and ethical considerations

63. This WFP decentralized activity evaluation conforms to WFP and UNEG ethical standards and norms as well as GCF guidelines. The Evaluation Team ensured that ethical standards have been upheld at all stages of the evaluation cycle. This has included, but not been limited to, ensuring informed consent; protecting privacy, confidentiality and anonymity of participants; ensuring cultural sensitivity; respecting the autonomy of participants; ensuring fair recruitment of participants (including women and socially excluded groups); and ensuring that the evaluation results in no harm to participants or their communities.

64. This evaluation was anchored in two approaches: a utilization-focused evaluation (UFE) approach, which shaped the methodology and stakeholder engagement, and theory-based evaluation, structured around the ToC analysis.

65. Specifically, the utilization approach focused on how the evaluation would be used by its primary intended users with whom the team met during the inception visit in order to understand their expectations and focus. An ongoing dialogue in this respect has been maintained with the CO and the Regional Evaluation Unit, who was responsible for the internal second quality assurance process. The final step in this process is the joint elaboration of the evaluation recommendations.

66. The OECD DAC and GCF evaluation criteria offered a robust framework to evaluate the programme's design, implementation, and outcomes. This analytical framework was reflected in an initial list of 46 evaluation questions (EQs) presented in the ToR, which cover the OECD DAC, WFP, and GCF evaluation criteria and guidelines. During the inception phase, the EQs were revised, refined and streamlined to present a framework for the evaluation (Annex 14), and further elaborated in the evaluation matrix (Annex 4). The refined EQs were designed to address key dimensions such as the project's alignment with the needs of the target population (relevance), its integration within the WFP CSP but also with government and other partners' interventions (coherence, ownership), and the extent to which it achieved its intended objectives in an equitable and sustainable manner at scale (effectiveness, impact, sustainability, scalability and replication, gender equality). Furthermore, the matrix examined the efficiency of resource utilization. This structured approach ensured that the findings were systematic, evidence-based, and actionable, contributing to both accountability and learning.

67. The evaluation applied a theory-based approach grounded in the reconstructed ToC developed during the inception phase (see Figure 7 and Figure 8). This approach provided a structured framework for assessing how programme inputs and activities were intended to lead to desired outcomes, particularly in the context of a dynamic environment and the capacity strengthening focus of Component 1. It enabled a comprehensive analysis of project relevance, effectiveness, impact orientation, sustainability, efficiency, gender responsiveness, and coherence, aligned with the OECD-DAC criteria.

68. The ToC approach further enhanced the evaluation's utility by supporting both accountability and learning. It helped clarify causal pathways, test underlying assumptions, and assess how external factors, such as climate shocks and institutional capacities, influenced project performance. Importantly, it highlighted areas where expectations held or broke down, offering valuable lessons for the design and adaptation of future WFP climate resilience programming. Additional methodological details are provided in Annex 12.

69. The evaluation adopted a mixed-methods approach, combining qualitative techniques, such as key informant interviews (KIIs) and FGDs, with secondary research including an analysis of project monitoring data. Qualitative methods provided detailed insights into project implementation, stakeholder perspectives and beneficiary experiences, while the secondary reading quantified results and tracked trends against established indicators. Quantitative methods focused primarily on a review of existing project monitoring data, including output and outcome indicators, financial data, and administrative records. This data was further complemented by secondary sources such as progress reports and external assessments, where available. Primary data collection focused more heavily on qualitative methods due to the timing of the evaluation relative to WFP's outcome monitoring cycles, quality of monitoring data and to minimize stakeholder evaluation fatigue following recent assessments such as the mid-term review.

70. During data analysis, the ET triangulated findings and feedback received by each team member from diverse sources to ensure impartiality and credibility. Moreover, the evaluation placed deliberate emphasis on gender equality (separate FGDs were held with women only), women empowerment (GEWE), equity, and broader inclusion objectives. This involved a thorough examination of how well the GCF project design addressed the diverse needs of its target population, encompassing women, men, girls, boys and people with disabilities. Furthermore, the evaluation assessed the effectiveness of systems for monitoring implementation and reinforcing accountability, ensuring these are gender-sensitive and inclusive. To ensure that different groups (different genders, persons with disabilities) could participate, data collection efforts paid special attention to the accessibility and convenience of the venues chosen. This involved making sure that the enumerators visited the communities, including the most remote ones covered by the project; that meeting times did not clash with other activities that could prevent potential respondents from attending; and that venues were accessible.

71. To support qualitative data collection across the project's wide geographic scope, the evaluation engaged four experienced local enumerators (two male, two female) to ensure inclusive community engagement. Enumerators were trained prior to fieldwork and supported through regular check-ins and remote coordination. Following the April 2025 earthquake in one of the sampled regions, the evaluation team quickly adapted the sampling plan to ensure continuity and safety. Further details on field arrangements and

adaptation measures are provided in detailed methodology for the evaluation (Annex 12)

1.5. Sampling

72. The evaluation gathered insights and feedback from a diverse range of internal and external WFP stakeholders that were selected based on a comprehensive stakeholder mapping and sampling criteria. The primary stakeholders and key informants included the WFP CO team, WFP field offices in Bokhtar, Gharm and Khorog. The WFP Regional Evaluation Unit acted as the internal second quality assurance. These stakeholders also played an active role through participation in the evaluation reference group (ERG), and providing feedback on draft reports. The Government of Tajikistan, as both a project partner and beneficiary, was consulted throughout the process, given their significant role in project implementation. Key government institutions, including the CEP, the Hydromet, the Ministry of Agriculture, the CES and the Agency for Forestry were consulted, along with local authorities in 15 districts through KIIs. The Evaluation Team also interviewed local NGOs.⁵⁰ Organizations such as the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and UN Women were also engaged in interviews focusing on coherence, project effectiveness and overall impact.

73. Project beneficiaries in the 11 targeted districts, i.e. Faizobod, Nurobod, Rasht, Tojikobod, Lakhsh (Jirgatal), Khovaling, Muminobod, Rushon, Shugnon, Roshtqala, and Ishkashim were consulted through interviews and FGDs, and their feedback was considered vital for assessing the project's relevance, effectiveness, impact orientation, innovation and sustainability. To enhance the potential for triangulation of data, the ET also engaged with non-beneficiaries in three FGDs, to provide a valuable contrast and contextual insights, ensuring a more objective and balanced evaluation.

1.6. Data collection methods

74. The following data collection methods have been utilized for the evaluation:

75. **Desk research:** the team gathered and reviewed relevant documents, reports and data from WFP, partners and secondary online sources to understand the context and inform the evaluation. This included a comprehensive review of annual progress reports and the MTR, output and outcome monitoring data, and financial records. These datasets were consolidated and cross-checked against the draft final report to verify consistency and assess the completeness of results reporting. The desk review also helped triangulate qualitative insights and identify key gaps to be explored during fieldwork and stakeholder consultations.

76. **Key informant interviews (semi-structured):** these focused on key questions identified for the relevant respondent category guided by the evaluation matrix. All interviews were voluntary, and respondents were given the assurance of anonymity to facilitate candid responses. The team conducted a total of 34 KIIs with 41 individuals (30F, 12M) with the project beneficiaries, Beside the KIIs conducted with the WFP CO – 10 individuals, (7M, 3F), WFP APARO -1 individual (1 F), WFP field offices – 3 individuals (1M, 2F), national government -11 individuals (9 M, 2 F), district authorities -19 individuals (16 M, 3 F) and development partners-17 individuals (12 M, 5 F). In total 104 individuals (59 M, 45F) were consulted through KIIs, which the ET considers as adequate to cover the range of key informants and generate triangulation (

77.

78.

79. Table 4).

⁵⁰ Bonu, Binokor, Dastyor, Ehyoti Hoit, Fund for Poverty Reduction, Langari Shoh, MD Garm, MSDSP
DE/TJCO/2022/008

Table 4. Overview of KIIs

WFP Tajikistan CO		WFP APARO		WFP FOs		KII with the national government		KII with project beneficiaries		KII with the district authorities		Development partners	
M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
7	3	-	1	1	2	9	2	13	29	16	3	12	5

80. Key informants were purposefully selected by virtue of the role they have played in the various elements of the project, and their engagement enabled the collection of a diverse range of opinions and perspectives. The data collection tools were produced in alignment with the revised and approved evaluation questions. Questions in the tools were identified following a purposive approach based on expected knowledge or experience. The full list of key informant interview (KII) respondents can be found in Annex 7.

81. **FGDs** were a cornerstone of the primary data collection, enabling the ET to gather first-hand knowledge of the project. Enumerators lead on FGDs, and used tailor made FGD guides for the discussions. FGD participants were selected through purposive sampling, with criteria including familiarity and experience with the project. In total, 68 FGDs were conducted across 30 *jamoats* and 68 communities, that engaged a total of 646 project beneficiaries (192 F, 454 M). The ET also conducted three FGDs with non-beneficiaries, that engaged a total of 32 community members (9 F, 23 M) who did not have a chance to participate/benefit from GCF project. In total 678 project beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries, including 477 Male and 201 Female participated in FGDs. Please see Table 5 below and Annex 7 for further information.

82. Separate beneficiary FGDs were conducted for men and women, as well as mixed groups, and they included female heads of household.

83. During field visits the ET conducted site observations of assets that were supported by WFP across all 53 visited communities.

Table 5: Distribution of FGD with beneficiaries by location, gender and age group

District	Conducted number of FGD	FGD with beneficiaries		FGD with non-beneficiaries		Total number of beneficiaries
		Male	Female	Male	Female	
GBAO						
Rushon	7	53	10	6	5	74
Shugnon	11	79	24	0	0	103
Roshtqalla	7	48	22	0	0	70
Ishqoshim	6	38	25	0	0	63
DRS						
Garm	8	38	40	8	3	89
Tojikobod	5	30	13	0	0	43

Jirgatol (Lahsh)	2	19	0	0	0	19
Nurobod	6	51	10	0	0	61
Fayzobod	4	21	16	0	0	37
Khatlon						
Khovaling	6	39	9	0	0	48
Muminobod	6	38	23	9	1	71
TOTAL:	68	454	192	23	9	678

84. Incorporating diverse perspectives from a variety of stakeholders ensured that the evaluation collected comprehensive datasets that reflected the experiences and insights of various parties involved in and affected by the project.

1.7. Data analysis

85. The evaluation applied an integrated analytical approach grounded in the evaluation matrix (Annex 4), combining descriptive, trend, comparative, thematic, and content analyses. Qualitative data from interviews, FGDs, and documents were organized into a shared spreadsheet, making it simpler for the team to identify key themes. Financial reports and budget data were closely reviewed to see how spending patterns aligned with the original plans. The team cross-checked data from different sources, taking special care to include factors like gender, age, and disability to strengthen the findings. Triangulation was also conducted across the evaluation team, with individual team members reviewing and validating each other's data collection notes, interview summaries, and preliminary analyses to ensure consistency and accuracy of findings.

86. To assess how well the project contributed to outcomes, a simplified contribution analysis was used. This included reconstructing the theory of change, testing assumptions, and looking into alternative explanations. Performance was rated across evaluation criteria, excluding impact (explained in Section 1), using a defined rating scale (Annex 10). Early findings were checked in an exit debrief and later on in the preliminary findings, conclusions and recommendations workshop held on 17 July 2025 to fill in any data gaps. WFP will disseminate the final findings through tailored presentations and summary briefs. Additional details on data methods can be found in Table 6 and Annex 12.

Table 6. Overview of Data Collection and Analysis Methods

<i>Data Collection Method</i>	<i>Analysis Approaches and Purpose</i>
<i>Mixed-methods Approach</i>	<i>Merged quantitative and qualitative analysis to fully assess project outputs and outcomes, ensuring thorough data validation.</i>
<i>Quantitative Data Collection</i>	<i>Looked at key numbers like beneficiary counts, frequency, and types of assistance. Integrated monitoring data from CO and external sources such as the Committee for Environmental Protection and Hydromet. Financial analyses considered disbursement rates, and efficiency, verifying if funds were effectively aligned with objectives. Data were cross-checked with qualitative findings to ensure accuracy.</i>
<i>Qualitative Data Collection</i>	<i>Collected primary data through FGDs using appreciative inquiry to explore empowerment and factors affecting effectiveness. Additional insights came from key informant interviews across different governance levels and direct observations in the field.</i>
<i>Appreciative Inquiry Lens</i>	<i>Identified successful strategies and practices, as well as highlighting areas needing improvement or facing challenges.</i>

<i>Gender and Inclusion Analysis</i>	<i>Reviewed data split by sex and age to understand the project's impact on gender equality and empowerment.</i>
<i>Descriptive Analysis</i>	<i>Summarized beneficiary numbers clearly, along with frequency and types of assistance given.</i>
<i>Trend Analysis</i>	<i>Spotted consistent patterns in support delivery and beneficiary engagement.</i>
<i>Comparative Analysis</i>	<i>Compared data from documents, interviews, and other sources to find consistencies and differences.</i>
<i>Thematic Analysis</i>	<i>Explored qualitative data to capture social dynamics and empowerment stories.</i>
<i>Light Contribution Analysis</i>	<i>Checked causal links between activities and observed changes, considering multiple influences.</i>
<i>Narrative Analysis</i>	<i>Reviewed stakeholder stories to understand project impacts on capacity building.</i>

87. The combination of these analytical approaches provided a detailed and reliable assessment of the project's effectiveness, efficiency, and community resilience, especially regarding local adaptation strategies.

Ethical considerations

88. Ethical considerations were fully integrated across all phases of the evaluation in accordance with the 2020 United Nations Evaluation Group (UNEG) Ethical Guidelines and Code of Conduct. The evaluation team ensured adherence to ethical standards, including informed consent, confidentiality, data protection, and cultural sensitivity. All participants were informed of the voluntary nature of their participation, and interviews and focus group discussions were conducted in private settings without the presence of WFP staff to preserve neutrality. Special attention was given to the inclusion and protection of women participants, including conducting interviews in safe and appropriate locations, and organising separate FGDs for women only. Particular care was also taken when engaging with vulnerable groups, and no data were collected from children or minors. Anonymity and privacy were upheld throughout data collection, analysis, and reporting. The evaluation team applied a do-no-harm approach, and no ethical risks or incidents were encountered during the assignment.

1.8. Evaluability assessment in practice and limitations

89. The initial evaluability assessment was confirmed to be broadly accurate in identifying both strengths and limitations. The reconstructed TOC served as a consistent framework for analysis, and triangulation of multiple data sources was essential to address data gaps and ensure coherence.

90. When it comes to limitations, the evaluation faced gaps in institutional memory due to high staff turnover within WFP and government institutions, and the early phase-out of cooperating partners. These constraints limited stakeholder recall of project implementation, particularly its early stages. Access challenges also emerged, particularly in Rasht Valley and GBAO, due to environmental disruptions, such as earthquake and road blockages. Cultural sensitivities and response bias also affected data collection in conservative communities, although these were mitigated by experienced, gender-balanced local enumerators and culturally appropriate data collection techniques.

91. Further limitations included gaps in the availability and quality of outcome-level monitoring data, inconsistent data disaggregation (e.g., by sex, age, and vulnerability), limited documentation of internal processes such as joint monitoring or steering committee decisions, diverse contextual and institutional factors, and the absence of standard definitions for success and sustainability remained throughout the process. While financial records were shared, they lacked full activity-level breakdowns across years due to system constraints. The evaluation team addressed these challenges through triangulation of qualitative findings, selective use of quantitative data, and direct validation during field visits. Additional methodological

limitations and mitigation measures are detailed in Annex 12.

2. Evaluation findings

2.1. Relevance

1.1 To what extent was the project design and its interventions relevant to the needs of the target beneficiaries and the context, including national policies and priorities?

Finding 1. The project was structured in alignment with national adaptation frameworks and sectoral development plans and addressed defined climate risks and livelihood constraints in the target districts. The project also addressed key vulnerabilities of rural populations, particularly in relation to water, food security, and access to climate information. The relevance of the project was strong in its design but was, however, moderated during implementation by operational delays and external socio-economic factors.

Alignment with national policies and strategic frameworks, SDGs, and WFP and UN frameworks

92. The project's core components and objectives were aligned national adaptation and development priorities, including those that emerged or evolved during implementation, including the National Strategy for Adaptation to Climate Change (2021–2030), which was approved in October 2019, after the project was initially designed. The project directly supported the implementation of this *Strategy*, particularly in areas related to drinking water access (i.e., measures towards improving quality of land and drinking water; Creating favourable environment for living through accessibility of drinking water; rehabilitation of irrigation and drainage systems in order to improve sufficiency of water supply for irrigated land); food security (i.e., ensuring food security and people's access to good quality nutrition); and rural infrastructure (i.e., Modernization of infrastructure for drinking water supply). The Project complemented other national efforts towards reducing climate vulnerability in rural and mountainous areas and enhancing the availability and accessibility of climate information for planning and risk reduction, as prioritised in the NAS. It also contributed to the implementation of the *NDC* (updated in 2021), and the *Fourth National Communication*.

93. The project contributed to the implementation of the *Green Economy Development Strategy for 2023–2037*, which aims to transform the country into a "green country" by 2037, focusing on sustainable practices across all sectors of the economy. The strategy includes goals for renewable energy, climate resilience and sustainable resource management, which is in line with the project. These frameworks collectively identify climate-resilient agriculture, water management, agroforestry, and early warning systems as central to national adaptation planning.

94. The project aligned with and contributed to international climate agreements and multilateral climate finance mechanisms, including the objectives of the GCF and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction. Project's focus on women empowerment aligned with and contributed to the *National Strategy for the Activation of the Role of Women in the Republic of Tajikistan 2021–2030*, particularly in advancing gender equality, promoting women's economic empowerment, and increasing women's participation in climate resilience and agricultural development. The project targeted women-headed households for the distribution of climate-smart assets such as greenhouses, solar dryers, and drip irrigation systems, enabling women to diversify income sources and improve food security, in alignment with the Strategic priorities.

95. At the sectoral level, the project reinforced strategies of key institutions. For instance, the *Forestry Sector Development Programme for 2022–2026* includes a target of establishing 5,000 hectares of forestry and project support to 200 hectares contributed directly to this objective. Similarly, the Ministry of Agriculture confirmed that the project complemented its mandate to expand orchard cultivation and improve irrigation systems.

96. Several national entities noted that the project also supported the development of strategic planning instruments. For example, a specific *Programme for the development of horticulture and viticulture* was prepared as part of the project's contribution to institutional planning within the Ministry of Agriculture.

97. The project outputs were aligned with the *Agricultural Sector Development Programme to 2030 (ASDP-2030)*. Through this integration the project influenced national planning in areas including infrastructure, institutional reform, agricultural research and service delivery.

98. At the subnational level, the project built on prior WFP work to support district development plans (DDPs), through establishment of technical working groups in all eleven targeted districts and the support to the development and formal approval of district-level climate adaptation plans (CAP), ensuring their integration into existing DDPs. This alignment between national policies and district-level planning enhanced policy coherence, although the implementation capacity at local level remained variable.

99. The project also aligned with WFP global and national strategic priorities. It reflected the WFP shift from food assistance to climate resilience, which began in 2015 and was subsequently institutionalized in the *CSP 2023–2026* for Tajikistan. The project directly supported strategic outcome 1 of the CSP, which focuses on strengthening national systems and improving the climate resilience of vulnerable populations. The intervention was also consistent with the WFP *Climate Change Policy (2017) and its updated version from 2024*,⁵¹ including its emphasis on anticipatory action, systems-based programming, and national ownership. The use of tools such as PICSA (Participatory Integrated Climate Services for Agriculture), the integration of adaptation planning into district development plans, and the institutional engagement with national forecasting services are consistent with The WFP broader strategic approach to climate action.

100. The project was broadly consistent with the climate change adaptation efforts of multilateral entities operating in Tajikistan, particularly those aligned with the GCF, the United Nations system, and other regional development partners. The project's and wider WFP's resilience efforts aligned with the United Nations Development Sustainable Development Framework (UNSDCF) for Tajikistan, particularly under outcomes related to resilient rural livelihoods, inclusive growth and institutional capacity and its contributions to SDG 2 (Zero Hunger), SDG 5 (Gender Equality), SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation), and SDG 13 (Climate Action).

101. The project contributed to the GCF strategic result areas by addressing food, water and livelihood insecurity in climate-vulnerable communities and by strengthening institutional systems for climate risk analysis and early warning. The project was informed by context analysis and consultations with key government entities (the CEP Chairperson, Hydromet, CES and Civil defence; Agency of Land Reclamation and Irrigation, Agency of Forestry, Ministry of Agriculture) as well as with communities. PICSA and district-level consultations were used to identify and contextualize risks and inform the design of climate advisory services, though the evaluation found that project could have done better in terms of engaging with other community groups and beneficiaries (see more details in 'Efficiency' section).

Responsiveness to institutional needs and capacities

102. The project was shaped by consultative process and institutional needs assessments with national partners, which resulted in a coherent set of interventions in response to institutional capacity gaps, particularly in national agencies with climate adaptation mandates. Interventions supported the recognised needs of Hydromet to invest in digital infrastructure, data management tools and technical capacity to generate and disseminate locally relevant climate information, by investing in digitization of historical climate records, procurement of forecasting hardware, and delivery of software training. The project also provided on-the-job training and peer-exchanges with the Russian Hydromet, all of which was relevant by interviewed stakeholders across all stakeholder groups.

103. The above investments in the expansion of DDPs to include CAP, along with trainings on climate change adaptation, gender, and budget planning were also considered relevant to needs and priorities of

⁵¹ <https://www.wfp.org/publications/wfps-updated-climate-change-policy-2024>

district authorities.

Responsiveness to the needs and priorities of beneficiaries

104. The project targeted food-insecure and climate-vulnerable communities in mountainous and remote districts, where access to infrastructure, services and markets was limited, addressing persistent structural barriers, including water scarcity, degraded land and limited livelihood diversification. Evaluation found that irrigation system rehabilitation, installation of drip irrigation and solar-powered water pumps, and expansion of orchards on erosion-prone land were aligned with the agricultural and environmental needs of smallholder farmers, particularly women, and addressed recurrent drought and water scarcity in the targeted districts. Community-focused interventions, including the provision of greenhouses, solar cookers, and storage facilities, addressed specific barriers related to seasonal food insecurity and household energy use.

105. The project also integrated gender-responsive interventions, targeting vulnerable households⁵² and female-headed households for the distribution of climate-resilient assets, including greenhouses, solar dryers and cookers. The project also provided a needed training in financial literacy, business development and agricultural practices. These types of interventions were considered by consulted community stakeholders (and in particular women participating in FGDs) as relevant and responsive to the needs of these groups. However, evaluation found that while these interventions addressed gender-specific constraints, the absence of organized women's groups in many districts and uneven access to digital tools limited the scalability of these efforts (see more in Sections 3.4, 3.5, 3.6). Informal peer-support networks, such as WhatsApp groups, were introduced as adaptive measures, but they lacked formal institutional support.

106. CBTs for temporary employment was relevant in addressing the immediate needs of beneficiaries, as it allowed them to access essential food and household items through local markets, reflecting an appropriate response to both household priorities and the local economic context.

107. The introduction of SMS platforms and a Telegram bot⁵³ to disseminate climate and market information was relevant to the local agricultural context, as it addressed information gaps related to cropping patterns, agro-ecological conditions, and household decision-making needs. The intervention was aligned with the demand for timely and location-specific intelligence. However, challenges such as limited digital literacy and weak connectivity in remote areas hindered accessibility, particularly among the most marginalized groups, which affected somewhat the relevance of support.

Adaptability to evolving conditions

108. Initial project proposal was designed in November 2016, which was submitted to the GCF in June 2017 and endorsed in 2018. Following the signature of the corporate accreditation master agreement (AMA) between WFP and GCF in November 2018, the FAA for the Tajikistan FP067 project was signed on March 2020. The subsidiary agreement between WFP (accredited and executing entity) and the CEP (national designated authority and executing entity) was signed in July 2020.⁵⁴ The timelapse between the design (2016) and the inception phase (2020 -early 2021), was long, demanding a reassessment of initial assumptions and adjustments to activity sequencing and budget allocations within the components. The reassessment helped to confirm and refine approaches going forward. The project encountered further changes to the logical framework and budget in 2023, to adapt the project given the delays in start-up, changes in district-level priorities, and external factors such as the COVID-19 pandemic and emerging socioeconomic conditions, including inflation, supply chain disruptions and rising construction costs. These factors affected the timing and scope of asset delivery. Adaptations to specific components (such as the procurement and installation of greenhouses and solar technologies) are elaborated in EQ 4.2. Similarly, changes to delivery mechanisms in response to beneficiary feedback (e.g., replacing IVR systems with Telegram-based tools) are also discussed under EQ 4.2.

⁵² divorced, widowed.

⁵³ <https://agro-asia.com/en>

⁵⁴ WFP 2025. Final Project Report; WFP 2021. Inception Report.

109. Despite these adaptive measures, the evaluation found that the project's ability to respond to changing conditions remained constrained by rigid donor approval procedures and fixed implementation arrangements, which limited the flexibility required for timely adjustments to evolving local needs.

1.2 To what extent were the planned inputs realistic, appropriate, and adequate to achieve the results?

Finding 2. The project's inputs were well aligned with its objectives and were grounded in a clearly defined results logic. The inception phase played a critical role in adjusting the inputs to reflect implementation realities, which helped preserve the overall relevance of the intervention.

110. Evaluation found that the planned inputs of the project were, in general, realistic and appropriate in relation to the intended results. They were designed to address multi-dimensional vulnerability through a combination of infrastructure investments, institutional capacity strengthening, and support to community-level and household-level adaptation. However, the project was formulated several years prior to its actual inception, which demanded further tailoring considering new developments and needs at both institutional and community levels, as discussed in previous section. The adjustments were relatively minor but were found to be useful to strengthen the focus and enhance the relevance of the project to the changing context in Tajikistan.

111. The project's results framework was underpinned by a clear theory of change, integrating institutional capacity strengthening results⁵⁵ (Component 1) with livelihoods and climate adaptation interventions at community level⁵⁶ (Component 2), which was found to provide sound contribution within Tajikistan context.⁵⁷ The design was defined in a way to maximize the interdependence between institutional readiness, timely delivery of tailored climate information, and improved adaptive capacity at the local level. Through these investments, the project adequately targeted the improvement of public service, contributing to better ability of national institutions to collect and share climate information. The Component 2 built on these inputs, by directly supporting local communities and farmers to enhance their agricultural practices and be more resilient to climate change.

112. While the reconstructed theory of change provided a comprehensive analytical frame, the evaluation also reviewed the logical framework underpinning the project. This framework was broadly consistent with the ToC and helped structure inputs and outputs in line with the project's dual focus on institutional capacity and community resilience. However, the logical framework was not fully systematic in capturing cross-cutting linkages and underlying assumptions, such as institutional coordination, absorptive capacity, and the pace of procurement processes. These gaps became more visible during the GCF remediation exercise, when several indicators and targets were revised to strengthen measurement consistency and clarify causal pathways.

113. Assumptions and risks were identified in the project documentation, although some of the implementation assumptions, particularly around procurement timelines and institutional capacities, proved overly optimistic, as discussed in the Efficiency section.

114. The project built on WFP's established role and comparative advantage in Tajikistan, particularly its field presence and experience in supporting the climate resilience, asset creation and livelihood activities that were implemented by WFP over the last decade.⁵⁸ The project capitalized on the WFP operational presence

⁵⁵ supporting the Hydromet to introduce and use Data Rescue and climate data management systems, as well as risk mapping and GIS tools to generate monthly and seasonal climate forecasts and to monitor crop and pasture conditions

⁵⁶ strengthening communities' and farmers' capacity to interpret and act on tailored climate advisories, contributing further to their more appropriate agricultural approaches and practices

⁵⁷ As mentioned in the Section 1.3 the ET reviewed the Project ToC and further refined it to ensure that all contextual elements that the project encountered over the implementation are factored in to enable a full assessment.

⁵⁸ WFP. Tajikistan T-ICSP (Jan - Jun 2018) and WFP Tajikistan CSP (2019-2024) included climate resilience interventions

in remote areas, its experience with food assistance through asset creation, and its existing partnerships with key national institutions, including the CEP, Hydromet, the Forestry Agency, and the Agency for Land Reclamation and Irrigation. These relationships facilitated both the technical feasibility and institutional acceptance of the planned interventions, as corroborated by consulted stakeholders who considered WFP as important actor in the climate resilience and food security sector. However, the adequacy of certain inputs was affected by external constraints, including the absorption capacity of key national institutions. Local level resilience and agricultural support activities were hindered by global supply chain disruptions, rising prices for construction materials, and extended administrative procedures for project modifications which delayed the delivery of several key activities. These included the procurement and distribution of green technologies, like drip irrigation system, greenhouse, solar cooker and solar panels, etc. intended for vulnerable households.

115. The budget allowed for flexibility within a 10 percent adjustment at the output level, and amendments were formally approved by the GCF in 2023. Delays were noted in approval of formal amendments to realign budget allocations by the GCF until 2023, nearly midway through the project, affecting the implementation. This timing gap limited the project's ability to respond to early implementation bottlenecks, such as delays in translating and adapting PICSA materials, identifying and training local facilitators, and finalizing the ICT delivery systems. These delays compressed the implementation window for downstream activities and diminishing the use of the full potential of interdependence and mutual leverage of the two components. This is because, although institutional support to Hydromet progressed as planned, several outputs that required community-level rollout or coordination with local actors experienced delays due to the late availability of technical inputs and supporting infrastructure, as detailed in Section 3.4 Effectiveness below. Besides, the ownership and institutional buy in was challenging at times, which affected the timely achievement of institutional results.

116. These challenges affected the relevance of the project to significant extent, leading to the rating of relevance as **Satisfactory**.⁵⁹

2.2. Coherence

2.1 How coherent and strategically aligned was the project's intervention with the broader climate change adaptation and mitigation efforts of multilateral entities, and how effectively did the project's partnerships leverage their capacities and commitments to achieve the desired outcomes?

Finding 3. The project design was internally coherent, with mutually reinforcing components. However, external coherence and collaboration with multilateral actors and implementing partners was limited. The project maintained formal governance structures, though technical coordination and systematic collaboration mechanisms were not fully in place.

Internal coherence

117. As noted in the previous section, the project was designed with a high degree of internal coherence, reflected in the complementarity between its two main components and the logical connection between institutional-level and community-level interventions. These components were linked through a clear results logic, that established a link between improved climate services which were intended to inform and enhance the relevance and sustainability of adaptation actions at the household and community levels.

118. Evaluation found that these linkages were functionally operationalized in several aspects of the

under SO3 respectively, including climate adaptation, asset creation, and livelihood activities aimed at fostering resilience to shocks and stressors, and conduct early response activities in the event of a small-scale disaster

⁵⁹ See the applied rating scale in Annex 10.

project. For example, climate forecasts produced by Hydromet were disseminated via ICT platforms, including SMS and a Telegram bot. These systems informed decisions around planting, irrigation and harvest timing, directly supporting orchard development and maintenance, greenhouse production, and other asset-based interventions, as confirmed by final beneficiaries. The participatory methodologies introduced through the PICSA approach under Component 1 helped translate climate information into practical actions for smallholder farmers, contributing to catalytical behaviour change results envisaged under Component 2. The above-mentioned delays in the rollout of digital tools and content, affected the extent to which Component 2 interventions could link and benefit from such tools, affecting internal coherence.

119. The project also contributed well to WFP's broader climate resilience portfolio in Tajikistan, facilitating a shift in WFP programming from primarily food assistance to a more systems-oriented, climate adaptation approach. The intervention laid the groundwork for follow-on projects with similar technical elements, including the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) funded climate resilience and agriculture projects. However, the evaluation found that The WFP climate portfolio still includes several projectized approaches, with limited potential for internal learning and still underdeveloped space for thematic coordination with other development partners across the climate portfolio. This was found to affect the extent to which the climate portfolio could benefit from clear and systematic structuring, through institutional mechanisms for cross-project planning, monitoring or adaptation.

External Coherence

120. The project maintained effective operational collaboration with UN Women, where joint gender-responsive interventions at both central and district levels benefited from leveraging thematic expertise of two agencies. However, engagement with other UN agencies remained limited, even though the MTR recommended more efforts to be invested in strengthening coordination.⁶⁰ The evaluation found that the WFP and UN Development Programme (UNDP)⁶¹ did not sufficiently coordinate the two GCF funded projects, which is considered as a weakness. Stakeholders stressed that WFP could have more proactively engaged existing coordination mechanisms, particularly through CEP, which holds the mandate to align donor-funded climate actions. These missed opportunities constrained external coherence and reduced the potential for synergies across Tajikistan's broader climate resilience portfolio.

121. Outreach to other donors and international organizations active in the field of climate change in Tajikistan was also minimal. One example of collaboration was noted regarding the PICSA tool, whereby German Corporation for International Cooperation (GIZ) used WFP-developed PICSA model to scale it up in their targeted areas. WFP also coordinated with the Asian Development Bank in terms of complementary activities on Geographic Information System (GIS) for Hydromet.

122. The project drew selectively on external national and international technical expertise, engaging with the Russian Hydromet on specialized training for forecasting specialists for Hydromet. These activities contributed to institutional capacity development and were valued by national counterparts. Nonetheless, some technical staff described their role in selection of partners as peripheral, with limited visibility over how technical assistance was sequenced or how knowledge transfer was integrated into long-term institutional processes.

123. Based on the assessment, coherence is rated as **moderately satisfactory**.⁶²

⁶⁰ See Annex 9 for an overview of MTR findings, conclusions and recommendations, along with an overview of the extent to which the Project followed up on the recommendations in its implementation

⁶¹ Adaptation planning support for Tajikistan through UNDP.

⁶² See the applied rating scale in Annex 10.

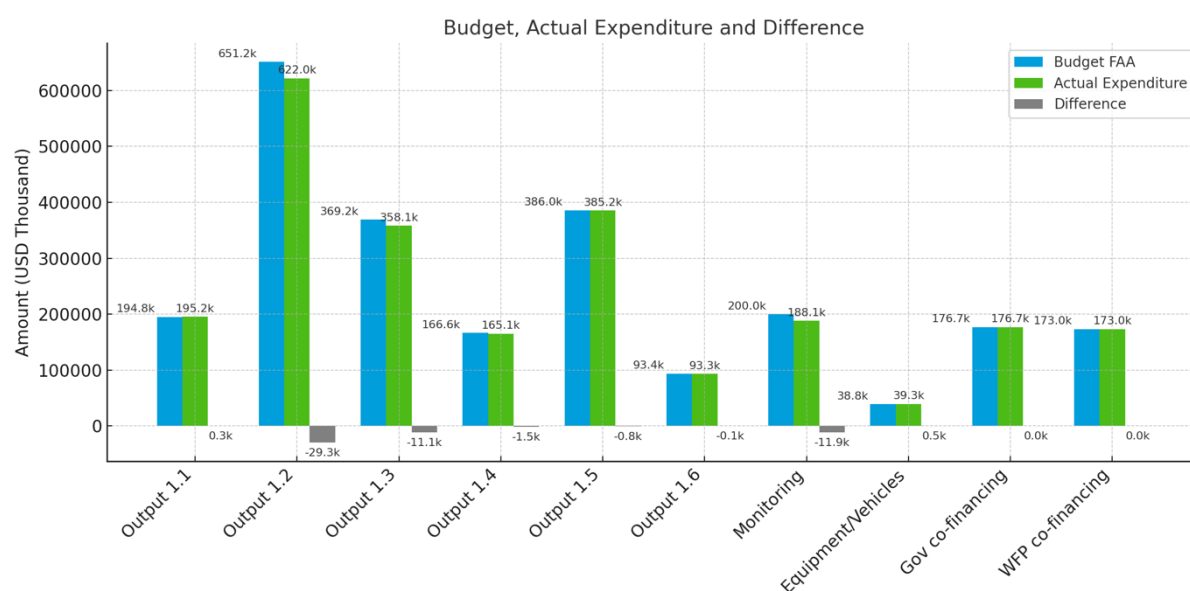
2.3. Efficiency

3.1 How efficiently were the project's outputs and results delivered in terms of time, cost, and resource utilization, and to what extent did financial controls and management practices support effective decision making and the timely flow of funds? Was co-financing used strategically to advance the project's objectives?

Finding 4. The project fully disbursed its allocated GCF budget and demonstrated effective financial management, including strategic prioritization of funds in response to inflation and cost pressures. Efficiency was affected by delays in project approval and the timing of initial fund releases, along with operational bottlenecks (procurement and payment delays, and institutional absorption capacity issues).

124. The evaluation found that the project effectively disbursed the total GCF-allocated budget of USD 9,273,585⁶³ in accordance with WFP's internal and GCF's financial management procedures. Minor budget variations within the project components⁶⁴ were noted to meet programmatic adjustments and price inflation of assets and in line with the permitted reallocation threshold of 10 percent based on the FAA. For example, Component 1 and 2 demonstrated effective financial management by compensating some areas of overspending, such as in activity 1.1.1., 1.4.1, 1.5.2, 1.5.3 (Figure 11); 2.2.1, 2.2.2, 2.3.1, 2.3.2 and 2.3.4 with a few areas of underspending (Figure 12).

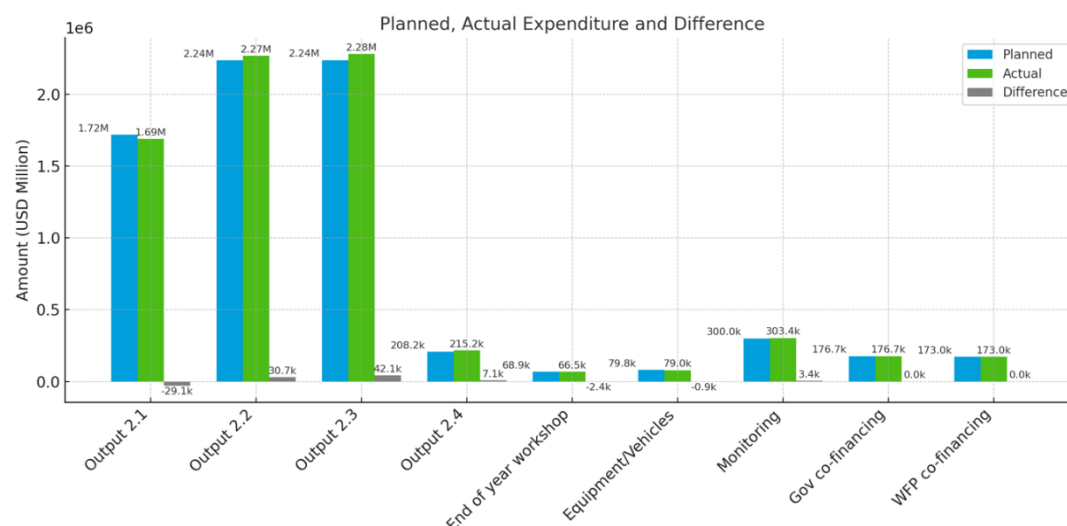
Figure 11. Component 1, Budget FAA, Actual Expenditure and Difference



⁶³ With contributions from the GCF amounting to USD 9,273,586,93 the WFP providing USD 345,980, and the Government of Tajikistan (GoT) contributing USD 353,424

⁶⁴ Component 1 demonstrated effective financial management with a few areas of underspending (-4 percent). Component 2 showed high delivery and minimal overspending of 1 percent.

Figure 12. Component 2, Budget FAA, Actual Expenditure and Difference

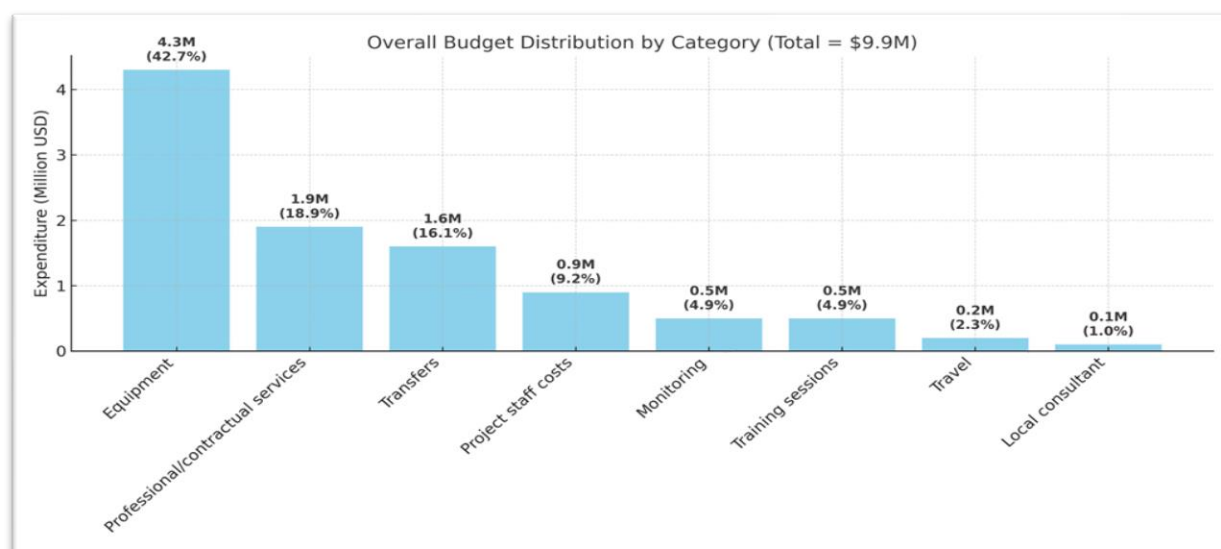


Source: WFP financial end project reporting, May 2025

125. The project saw a slow start in the first years, with expenditure of USD 0.7 million in 2021 to USD 9.9 million in 2025, with approximately USD 7.2 million (72 percent) spent during 2023 and 2024. As mentioned in previous section, this sharp acceleration in fund utilization in the latter half of the project related to project's ability to overcome some major operational bottlenecks, completing most outputs (see Figure 8).

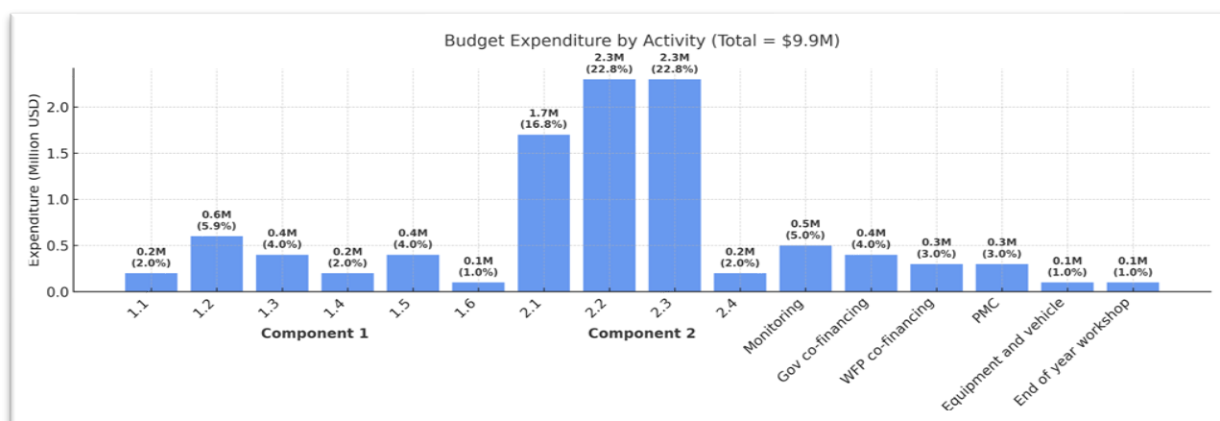
126. A bulk of expenditure centred on asset-intensive delivery, supplemented by technical assistance and operational support, in line with the project's implementation plan (Figure 13, Figure 14). Procurement of equipment presented the largest share (over 42 per cent of the total budget) of expenditures (USD 4.25 million), in support to the delivery of technical inputs. This was followed by professional and contractual services (USD 1.89 million) and transfers (USD 1.61 million), which together made up nearly one-third of overall spending. Staff costs totalled USD 922,081, while monitoring, training and workshops accounted for smaller shares.

Figure 13. Budget expenditure by category



Source: WFP financial end project reporting, May 2025

Figure 14. Budget expenditure by activity



Source: WFP financial end project reporting, May 2025

127. Co-financing contributions from WFP of USD 345,980 and the GoT of USD 353,424 were effectively utilized to cover essential project operational costs over the project duration, such as logistical support, office space rent for WFP and government counterpart and salaries for shared staff.⁶⁵ This strategic use of co-financing enabled the majority GCF funds to be fully directed toward core project activities and outputs, thereby enhancing the cost-efficiency of the intervention.

128. The project applied robust risk management measures, including biannual updates of risk registers at both country and activity levels as part of WFP's enterprise risk management system. These were complemented by the application of WFP's Environmental and Social Sustainability Framework (ESSF), which provided additional due diligence by screening activities for environmental and social risks. While interventions were not limited to Category C, the screening helped identify and mitigate potential risks in line with WFP's safeguard procedures. Together, these systems contributed to sound governance and risk-informed decision-making.

129. The original budget submitted in 2017, which could not be changed, proved to be insufficient at the project launch due to inflation and increased asset prices driven by the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and the Ukraine–Russia war.⁶⁶ Depreciation of the US dollar further reduced the project's purchasing power, making it increasingly difficult to align available resources with the rising costs of implementing activities across the targeted districts. To mitigate this, WFP and partners adjusted specific outputs and quality specifications to stay within budget. These in turn affected the quality of some of the key inputs,⁶⁷ as raised by consulted stakeholders. For example, some of the purchased seedlings were of poor quality and failed/produced limited yields, affecting the extent to which sustainable agricultural outcomes could be achieved. Besides, WFP conducted a restructuring process of the project including changes in the budget that was approved by GCF in 2023.

130. In 2023, delays in the FAA amendment and GCF disbursement led to postponed asset deliveries and CBT disbursements.⁶⁸ WFP proactively prioritised covering CBT payments and essential NGO operating costs

⁶⁵ Mid-term Review; internal Budget overviews.

⁶⁶ KII

⁶⁷ KIIs, field observations.

⁶⁸ Final project report.

to maintain community-level implementation to mitigate risks. However, evaluation found that operational bottlenecks persisted, including delayed CBT payments, beneficiary registration complications, verification issues, and shortages of critical supplies, each of which affected timely and coordinated implementation.

131. The choice of cooperating partners (CPs) was viewed as an added value by consulted stakeholders, as they ensured timely project execution and local expertise and outreach. CPs' familiarity with WFP's financial and administrative processes as well as established contacts at the district level, ensured that implementation run smoothly without delays.

132. Other factors affecting project efficiency included COVID-19, high staff turnover within WFP and key government institutions, delays in signing MoUs, slow procurement processes, institutional absorption capacity limitations, ICT system limitations and issues related to CBT payments, primarily concerning beneficiaries' access to and use of bank accounts. The MoU signing required extended consultations with government stakeholders to ensure alignment of support interventions with evolving priorities and institutional arrangements, leading to delays. As a result, the project's effective implementation window was compressed to two years instead of four, with a no-cost extension through March 2025. The project also encountered prolonged delays in the procurement, distribution and installation of greenhouses, solar cookers and solar fruit dryers (activity 2.4) due to extended discussions with the GCF over proposed modifications, particularly the shift to prefabricated greenhouses requested by communities during the inception phase. Furthermore, the 2022 civil unrest in GBAO also triggered tighter government oversight and required pre-approval of all activities in four districts, affecting WFP's delivery speed. These cumulative delays and significant turnover within WFP Country Office placed considerable pressure on human resources to meet delivery targets within a shortened timeframe. Nevertheless, WFP managed to catch up following the agreement with GCF in 2023 and delivered greenhouses and solar technologies by project end. WFP aligned its delivery schedule with evolving administrative processes.

3.2. To what extent were the project's coordination, management, and governance mechanisms clearly defined and effective in supporting institutional strengthening, local ownership, and overall project efficiency?

and

3.3 How effective were the communication strategies and mechanisms in ensuring regular, inclusive, and transparent communication with all stakeholders?

Finding 5. The coordination and consultation were inconsistent, marked by varied level of information sharing, transparency and engagement with partners and beneficiaries which affected the quality of implementation across levels.

133. The evaluation found that the project maintained formal governance structures, despite turnover at both the WFP and partner institutions, with a total of eight NSC meetings between 2021 and 2024, typically one to two times per year, with presence of senior representatives of key partner institutions. However, evaluation found that the project could have done more to maintain the quality of NSC meeting documentation (e.g., ensuring consistent documenting and signing of meeting minutes, which was not always the case). Follow-up on key decisions lacked consistency and clarity regarding roles and responsibilities or clear operational guidance, particularly regarding the PSU within the CEP, which constrained its ability to fulfil its coordination function effectively.

134. Technical coordination across agencies outside the NSC framework was variable and, in several cases, insufficient, leading to challenges such as gaps in consultation on critical implementation decisions, including site selection, identification of beneficiaries, the choice of cooperating partners. One of the consistently issue cited by government stakeholders was the procurement of substandard tree seedlings and the selection of sites without adequate water access or land certification. Although corrective actions were

taken following these issues, they were largely reactive and illustrate the absence of systematic technical coordination and validation procedures. Recurrent concerns from key national partners about a lack of access to operational data and delays in receiving updated information on project implementation were raised both to the WFP CO and to the evaluation team.

135. Coordination mechanisms at the subnational level were more operationally effective, though with varied two-way consultation process. District working groups, established in all targeted districts, were actively involved in consultations, the verification of target communities and beneficiaries, and identification of location-specific risks. Insights and familiarity of district-level actors of community vulnerabilities played an important role in adapting and tailoring interventions to local realities. In regions such as Khatlon and GBAO, local structures helped rectify inclusion errors and addressed implementation bottlenecks, such as delays in fencing materials and issues related to land tenure. Evaluation found that the project could have done more to ensure consistent two-way communication with communities and beneficiaries, particularly in relation to implementation decisions, feedback mechanisms, and the timely sharing of information (See Section 4.3).

Monitoring and evaluation (M&E)

Finding 6. Project M&E was fragmented, in part due to the absence of dedicated project-level M&E personnel and the challenges of aligning WFP's corporate systems with the GCF M&E framework.

136. Evaluation found weaknesses in the project-level M&E systems, mainly linked to a lack of a project-specific M&E personnel and system. These were mitigated by adding M&E responsibilities to staff member covering wider WFP programme portfolio. However, conflicting priorities limited their ability to provide focused M&E oversight for this project. The review of results framework and indicators shows varied level of quality, particularly with regards to measurement of higher level of objectives.

137. CPs' monitoring systems were largely output-focused, with limited entry points for integration into a central results-based framework. CPs submitted periodic reports; however, data verification, consistency, and analysis were not systematically coordinated. The project established several layers of monitoring, including CP-level reporting, WFP field staff observations, oversight by the Country Office, and periodic discussions at NSC meetings. However, these mechanisms were not consistently integrated into a unified, results-focused monitoring system, which limited the project's ability to effectively utilise available information for evidence-based decision-making and to reflect its broader contributions and transformative effects. Steering Committee meetings frequently highlighted these gaps, raising concerns about limited communication on financial flows and insufficient reporting against the results framework.

138. Broader WFP M&E systems were helpful to capture majority of project level data, mainly through application of the structured approach to both process and outcome monitoring spearheaded by the Research, Assessment and Monitoring (RAM) team. Baseline surveys, post-activity assessments, partner check-ins, field observations, joint monitoring visits with national and district stakeholders and stakeholder perception surveys were used to reinforce learning loops. However, the challenges in alignment of WFP corporate M&E framework with the GCF's results framework continued,⁶⁹ as differences in reporting requirements and indicators created parallel processes, and limited coherence in results tracking.

139. WFP also encountered internal turnover of staff, particularly in early years of project implementation, which affected institutional memory and building a stronger M&E system aligned to GCF needs. Most of the current project team joined only in 2022 or 2023. More recently, there was a stabilization of the project team which helped consolidate efforts and finalize the project implementation in a timely manner.

⁶⁹ WFP final project report, May 2025.

140. Based on the assessment, efficiency is rated as **moderately satisfactory**.⁷⁰

2.4. Effectiveness

141. The assessment of effectiveness is framed against the project's TOC (Figure 5), which sets out the causal pathways from investments in institutional and community capacities to outputs, outcomes, and ultimately enhanced climate resilience. The following analysis examines the extent to which the expected results chains were realised, while also considering the assumptions and risks embedded in the theory of change.

4.1 To what extent were the project's objectives achieved, and how did the project perform against its planned outputs, outcomes, and indicators?

Finding 7. The project contributed to the strengthening of climate resilience and livelihoods, especially through investments in infrastructure, training, and adaptive technologies that supported the uptake of climate-resilient practices and improved outcomes at the community level. However, efforts to strengthen institutional capacity were uneven, constrained by challenges in coordination, ownership, and follow-up support, resulting in output-level achievements with limited transformative impact to date.

142. The analysis of project performance and effectiveness is organized in such manner to first present findings on project performance under each component, followed by an analysis of transformative potential of the combination of project interventions overall. Overall, the project met or exceeded approximately 90 percent of its end-line log frame targets, with strong performance across all outcome areas, though a few indicators, particularly those related to gender balance and market access, fell slightly short (see Annex 6 for planned vs actual by output, activity, outcome).

Component 1. Capacity strengthening and awareness raising of food-insecure climate vulnerable communities and national actors for enhanced rural resilience and food security.

143. Component 1 was designed to strengthen institutional and community capacities in climate information services, and to support improved decision making at national and subnational levels. This involved improving climate and weather products tailored to community needs through capacity building of Hydromet, developing ICT mechanisms for delivering climate services (see Output 1.1⁷¹ and 1.2⁷², Annex 6), enhancing decision-making capacities in households through tailored climate advisories (see Output 1.3⁷³, Annex 6), raising awareness about climate change impacts on health and nutrition (see Output 1.4⁷⁴, Annex 6), and integrating adaptation plans at the district development committees with participation of local communities and authorities (see Output 1.6⁷⁵, Annex 6). These results reflect the reconstructed ToC output on strengthened Hydromet capacities in forecasting, risk mapping, and GIS tools, which provided the institutional foundation for climate information services (Figure 5).

⁷⁰ See the applied rating scale in Annex 10.

⁷¹ Output 1.1 Climate and weather products improved and tailored to the needs of vulnerable food insecure communities through increased capacity of Hydromet.

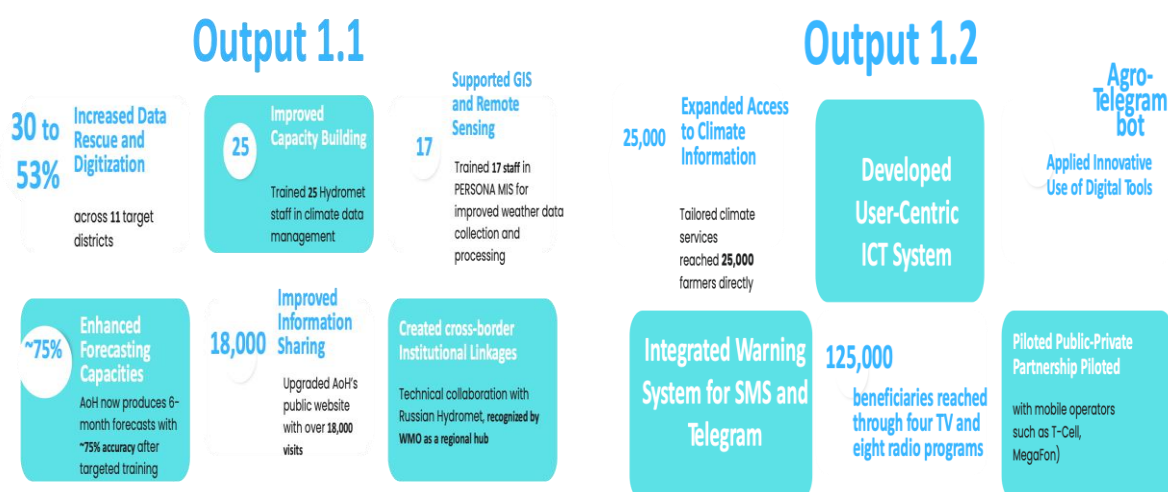
⁷² Output 1.2: Locally relevant delivery mechanisms for the provision of tailored climate and weather information through relevant ICTs identified and piloted.

⁷³ Output 1.3: Decision making in vulnerable households enhanced through improved capacities to interpret and act on tailored climate advisories.

⁷⁴ Output 1.4: Improved community capacities and awareness on climate change impacts on health and nutrition.

⁷⁵ Output 1.6: Adaptation plans integrated at District Development Committees (DDC) with full participation of community members and local authorities.

Figure 15. Achievements of results under Component 1 (Output 1.1 and Output 1.2)



Source: WFP Project monitoring data 2020-2025

144. The evidence indicates that the component largely delivered on its intended outputs. Evaluation found a significant catalytic potential of the investment in institutional strengthening of the Hydromet agency through hardware, software and associated training, which enhanced its capacity to store, analyse, and disseminate climate and weather information. For instance, with project support, Hydromet managed to increase its data digitalization from 30 percent to 53 percent between 2021 and 2024,⁷⁶ through digitization of historical meteorological data and the upgrading of technical systems (see output 1.2 and 1.3, Annex 6). Central level stakeholders reported that Hydromet staff now possess the skills to interpret data and produce seasonal forecasts with improved reliability, leading to improved delivery of tailored advisories that are relevant to the agricultural calendar and local climatic conditions. The deployment of ICT-based information systems, including SMS services and the Telegram bot, extended the reach of climate and market information, allowing for the delivery of crop- and location-specific content, aligned with the agroecological context of each user. Interviews and FGDs with communities confirmed the use of extended forecasts (180 days vs. the 90-day target) to inform agricultural planning and improve the timing and selection of farming practices, which has been the direct contribution of the project to Hydromet's capacity. Consulted community stakeholders and farmers (both women and men) noted that the full use and accessibility of seasonal climate forecasts has been limited by structural factors, including poor mobile coverage, digital illiteracy and unequal access to mobile devices, particularly among women in more isolated communities. These challenges have been beyond control of the project.

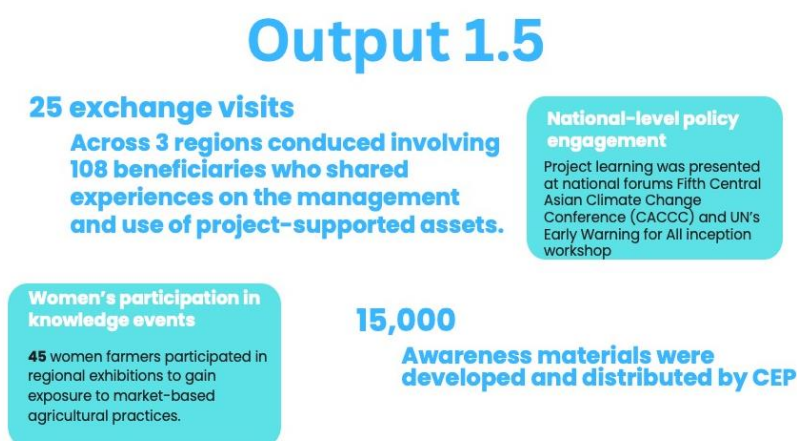
145. The modelling of PICSA and training initiatives (see Output 1.3, Figure 16) on PICSA methodology played a central role in bridging the gap between institutional forecasts and farmer-level decisions. Despite early implementation challenges, including issues with translation quality and initial content relevance, evaluation found that the training contributed to stronger institutional and individual capacities of 10 (out of 25 participants in training) specialists who were certified to deliver further training on PICSA. Additional 200 intermediaries (32 female)⁷⁷ of local authorities and experts, communities, leaders and other relevant stakeholders were participated in the PICSA, conducting 253 community-level training sessions for 5,566 smallholder farmers (1,447 female) on themes such as using climate risk and informed adaptation decision making in agriculture. The Evaluation found that such an approach helped multiple the knowledge broadly

⁷⁶ WFP 2025; Final project report.

⁷⁷ Ibid

and to have a pool of trained specialists who are able to communicate forecasts to rural audiences in a locally appropriate manner. WFP also organized 25 peer exchanges between beneficiaries (see output 1.5) on the management and operation of the assets created by the project to share experiences and practices, engaging 108 beneficiaries. For instance, WFP organised a study trip to visit regional exhibition and exchange the knowledge about market-based farming practices for 45 women farmers from the Khovaling and Muminobod districts. According to feedback from women who participated, this visit was helpful to understand better options and to think about expanding their business potential (Figure 16). This corresponds to the reconstructed ToC output on tailored climate services and the rollout of the PICSA approach, which aimed to bridge institutional forecasts with household-level decision-making (Figure 5).

Figure 16: Achievements of results under Component 1 (Output 1.5)



Source: WFP Project monitoring data 2020-2025

146. Broader stakeholder feedback corroborated that investments in capacity strengthening and exchanges have been beneficial, particularly in terms of consideration of climate risks and solutions, which many local stakeholders did not have an opportunity to learn before. Review of available secondary data from a survey conducted by WFP and the University of Reading corroborates field findings, noting that the PICSA training sessions stimulated change in adoption of the PICSA approach, helping farmers to become familiar with sources of climate information, accessing and using climate information for their daily agriculture decisions and applying autonomous adaptation measures to enhance their resilience to climate/weather deviations. According to the WFP/University of Reading survey data, these investments have contributed to cascade effects in terms of improved farming approaches, catalysing higher household income and food security. The planned scale-up of the PICSA model by GIZ in its targeted communities is also a good sign of efforts to scale up and expand the model use across the country.

Figure 17. Achievements of results under Component 1 (Output 1.3)

Output 1.3



Source: WFP Project monitoring data 2020-2025

147. Evaluation found that investments in market integration (Component 2- output 2.4,⁷⁸ Figure 18) through training for 500 farmers and the dissemination of price data via ICT platforms helped to expand the reach of the SMS-based system, reaching 25,000 farmers who subscribed to it. However, the uptake of the system fell short of targets due to implementation delays caused by institutional turnover. The ICT system was eventually transferred to Hydromet by project end (2025), with an additional maintenance role foreseen for the implementing NGO, sustained through advertising revenue.

Figure 18. Achievements of results under Component 2 (Output 2.4)⁷⁹



Source: WFP Project monitoring data 2020-2025

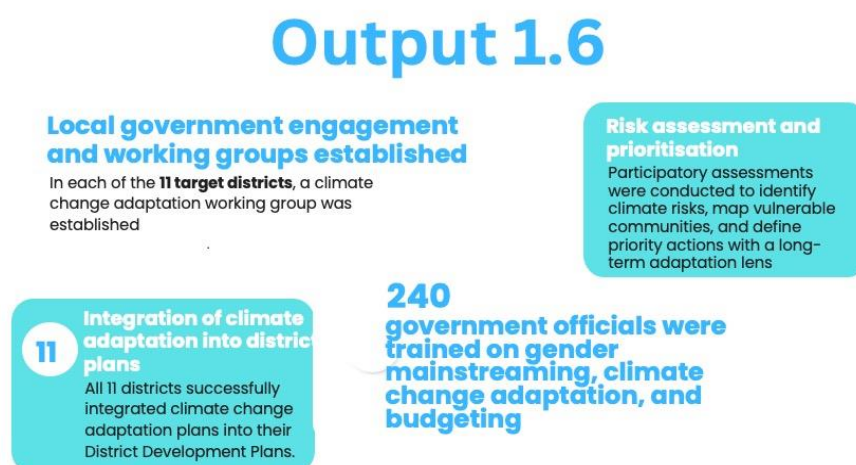
148. Given that the project was building on WFP contributions to the DDPs (see Section 2.1), the implementation focused on the integration of CCAP with the DDPs in 11 targeted districts (see Figure 19). Extensive efforts to enhance capacity of 240 government officials (members of the working groups for DDPs) in 11 targeted districts on gender mainstreaming, climate change adaptation, and budgeting to enable them to formulate strategies for their districts, have cumulatively contributed to an increase in knowledge of the government officials on topics required for the formulation of the plans. The project also supported the working groups to generate evidence on climate risks and the most vulnerable communities in target districts, which was used to inform prioritization of actions and target groups with a long-term adaptation lens.

⁷⁸ Output 2.4: Household resilience and adaptive capacity of climate vulnerable poor in target areas improved.

⁷⁹ Given its relevance to output 1.3, findings related to Output 2.4 is mentioned here under component 1.

Consulted stakeholders noted the added value of such support from the perspectives of both institutional capacity and awareness raising. According to the project monitoring data on implementation status of the DDPs, up to 70 percent of the plans were implemented. Interviewed stakeholders confirmed efforts to implement DDPs, and the project's contributions, despite the obstacles, to local socioeconomic development. Authorities estimated that approximately 20 percent of district-level progress could be attributed to the project's interventions. These findings align with the reconstructed ToC output on integrating climate adaptation into district development plans, which assumed that strengthened local planning capacities would enable climate-resilient governance (Figure 5).

Figure 19. Achievements of results under Component 1 (Output 1.6)



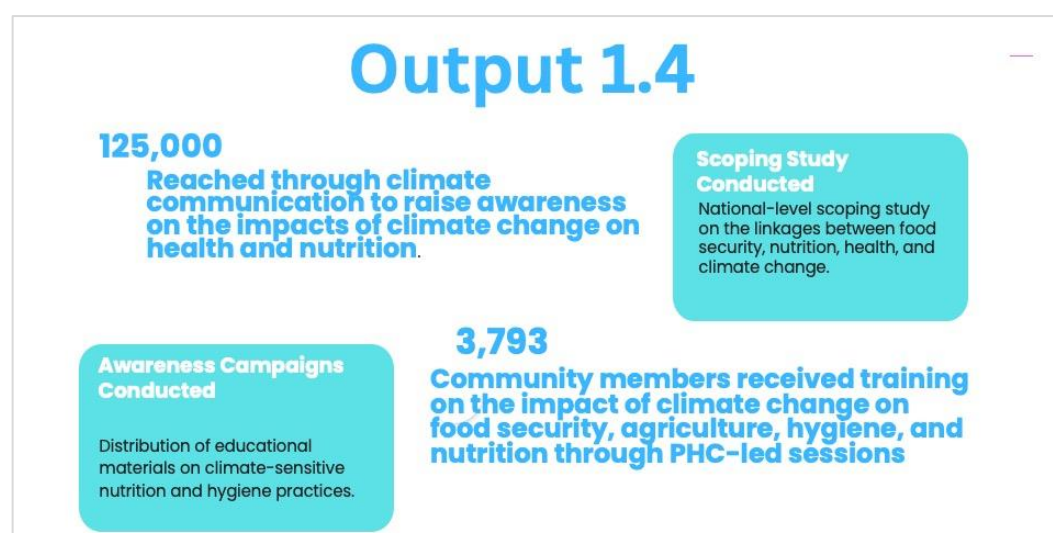
Source: WFP Project monitoring data 2020-2025

149. Beyond institutional capacity strengthening, Component 1 contributed to community-level awareness (see output 1.4), information dissemination, and capacity development. The project's support to evidence generation on climate change impacts on food security, nutrition and health, engaged more than 200 health practitioners in Teacher training, who further multiplied training at the community level on impact of climate change on food security, agriculture, and nutrition, engaging a total of 3,793 people (1,549 women) under output 1.4.⁸⁰ The project also developed a TOT manual for health practitioners on the impact of climate change on nutrition and health and raised awareness about malnutrition and appropriate dietary and hygiene practices among the vulnerable population groups in Tajikistan. Evaluation found that these measures were beneficial for health practitioners to increase understanding of the interlinkages of climate change and food security. The project also organized an awareness raising campaign to mark national celebrations and world days such as Healthy Food Day, International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies, World Environment Day, International Day of Rural Women etc., which reached ca. 15,000 people across communities.⁸¹ Radio and TV programmes to increase awareness of climate change impacts on health and nutrition, as well as to support communities with improving capacities to adapt to the risks targeted 125,000 people as well.

⁸⁰ *ibid.*

⁸¹ *ibid.*

Figure 20. Achievement of results under Component 1 (Output 1.4)



Source: WFP Project monitoring data 2020-2025

150. Based on the assessment above, the progress towards results under the Component 1 is rated as **satisfactory**.⁸²

Component 2: Resilience building at household and community level through diversification of livelihoods and establishment of value chains for market access.

151. Component 2 of the project addressed the need to build resilience of households and communities through integrated asset creation, infrastructure development, renewable energy support, and enhanced market access. The analysis indicates that the component contributed to structural changes in rural livelihoods, with substantial gains in agricultural productivity, household resilience, and time-use efficiency, particularly for vulnerable and marginalized groups. Under this component, a total of 7,300 direct and 21,260 beneficiaries were reached as presented in Table 7. Detailed analysis of project performance under this component is presented per thematic interventions.

Table 7. Overview of beneficiary data

Type of support	CBT Recipients	Direct Beneficiaries
Orchards	1,780	8,900
Agroforestry	1,580	7,900
Rehabilitation and construction of storage facilities	1,363	6,815
Rehabilitation of DWSS	1,460	7,300 (direct) 21,260 (indirect)

Source: WFP Final project report, May 2025

⁸² See the applied rating scale in Annex 10.

Livelihood diversification and productive asset development⁸³

152. The orchard and agroforestry interventions under output 2.1 achieved full implementation as planned, with established 400 hectares of orchards, benefiting approximately 1,780 people in orchard development (CBT – Food for Asset), totalling 8,900 direct beneficiaries). Chain-link fencing was provided for 300 hectares of orchards to protect assets.⁸⁴

153. The project also invested in agroforestry (integrating trees with crops and livestock to enhance soil health, crop yields, and climate resilience) across 200 hectares of agroforestry land across degraded or underutilized land mainly in GBAO reaching 1,580 farmers (with a total of 7,900 direct beneficiaries), yielding 66,000 and 50,400 planted tree seedlings, respectively. Besides, WFP facilitated an agreement between landless beneficiaries and the Forestry Agency to lease plots long-term (ten years), with the harvest shared between the parties. Stakeholder consultations corroborated the added value of such intervention, noting that many families would not have otherwise had an opportunity to access land for own production. This reflects the reconstructed ToC output on establishing orchards and agroforestry as community assets to support climate-resilient livelihoods and sustainable agricultural practices.

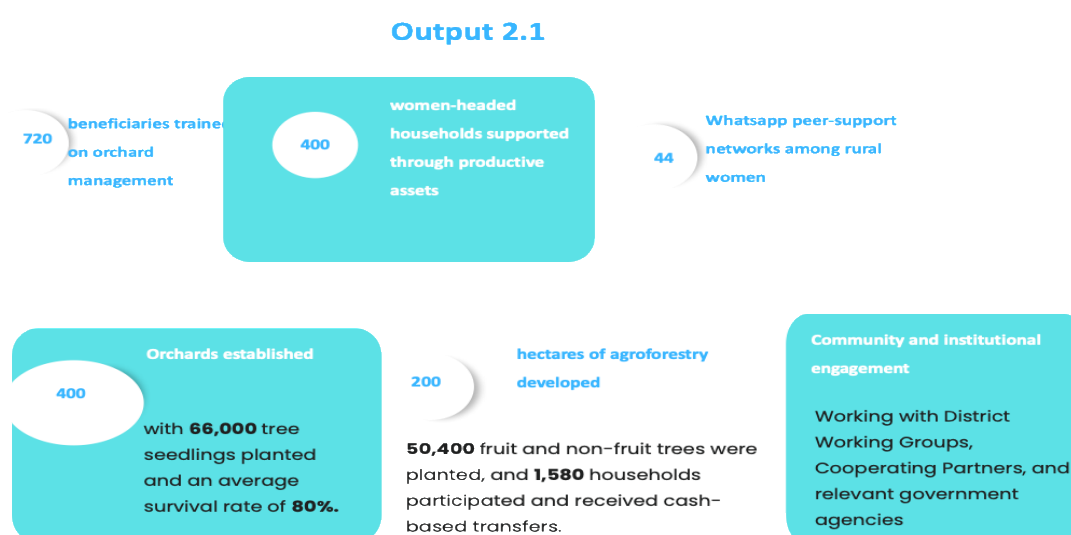
154. Evaluation found that the establishment of these assets contributed to land rehabilitation and food production, though the transformative effects of such investments varied due to differences in soil conditions, water availability and input quality. On a positive note, the integration of planning tools and forecasts developed under Component 1 helped enhance irrigation scheduling and alignment of agricultural practices with seasonal conditions. However, in some districts, gaps in coordination with technical institutions resulted in suboptimal species selection or low seedling survival. For instance, in one region, Ishkoshim district of GBAO, *Paulownia*⁸⁵ was selected for agroforestry based on its fast growth, soil-enhancing properties, and potential to provide additional resources such as timber. However, evidence showed that, despite its theoretical suitability, the tree could not adapt to the cold local conditions in the region, resulting in widespread seedling failure. In Rushon District, it was difficult to establish a 4-hectare forest due to water scarcity and soil infertility, leading to high seedling mortality. In Shughnon District, local communities initially welcomed the idea, but the project encountered confusion over forest ownership and lack of promised irrigation rehabilitation, which hindered progress.

⁸³ See output 2.1: Climate change adaptation supported through diversification of livelihoods, Annex 6

⁸⁴ WFP 2025; Final project report.

⁸⁵ *Paulownia* ([/pɔːˈloʊniə/ paw-LOH-nee-ə](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paulownia)) is a genus of seven to 17 species of [hardwood](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hardwood) trees (depending on taxonomic authority) in the family [Paulowniaceae](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paulowniaceae), the order [Lamiales](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lamiales). The genus and family are native to east Asia and are widespread across China, see more at <https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paulownien>

Figure 21. Achievements of results under Component 2 (Output 2.1)



Source: WFP Project monitoring data 2020-2025

Investments in irrigation system rehabilitation

155. The project's investment in rehabilitation/construction of drip irrigation systems for 300 hectares in targeted regions, rehabilitation of 200 km of irrigation channels and 16.5 hectares of land irrigated using 17 solar energy-based water pumps⁸⁶ was found to have brought transformative results in terms of land erosion mitigation, water efficiency and productivity enhancement, particularly on sloped lands. For instance, the rehabilitation of the irrigation canal in Tojikobod proved highly beneficial, providing essential water for agriculture and transforming farming practices in the area. Previously, despite fertile soil, crop failure was common due to a lack of irrigation. The project contributions were widely seen as a major advancement for the village, with approximately 100 hectares, mainly orchards, now benefiting from regular irrigation, leading to significant improvement of crop yields. The sustainability was assured by beneficiary households' contributions to a maintenance fund.



Irrigation system rehabilitation, GBAO
Photo by Tahmina Abdusalomzod, enumerator

156. In Rushon district, the irrigation canal rehabilitation significantly improved water access for agricultural land, where key crops like potatoes, carrots, and wheat are cultivated. Since the repair, water has been flowing consistently, allowing uninterrupted irrigation. Additional income that was provided to community members through CBT, was also cited as important and valuable source of additional income. A major challenge during implementation was transporting and installing heavy, long tubes in the mountainous

⁸⁶ WFP 2025; Final project report.

terrain, which required substantial physical effort and coordination, but was overcome through joint community efforts, which was highly praised by consulted community actors.

157. In Lakhsh, the drip irrigation system was fully implemented and well-maintained, with positive outcomes in productivity, community engagement, and women's participation. Consulted community actors cited that this process serves as a model for other districts.

158. However, site observations in Pamir region (Ishkoshim) showed that the system was partially installed, and the drip irrigation setup and solar pump required completion and technical support, which was cited to be challenging for community actors. Rushon also faced serious challenges, whereby the equipment was delivered, but the system was not installed, resulting in a lack of quality water infrastructure.

159. The use of solar pumps was considered helpful, given that these were installed in areas with no access to the electricity grid addressing water scarcity in dispersed communities. The uptake of drip irrigation by farmers, including 90 new users (total of approximately 450 beneficiaries), reflects growing interest in a rather new technology for Tajikistan, as also corroborated by stakeholder consultations in the local communities. The solar water pumps expanded irrigation capacity in such locations, added value to diversification of energy sources and access in remote communities. These results are consistent with the reconstructed ToC output on rehabilitated drinking water systems, restored irrigation, and installed solar pumps, which were expected to enhance household water security and reduce vulnerability to climate shocks (Figure 5).

160. Evaluation found positive examples of replication by local actors, pointing to emerging sustainability. Long-term viability of these systems depends on continued interest and capacity maintenance including funding and replacement of critical parts, particularly batteries, which was raised by some stakeholders as a critical sustainability factor. In some communities, like Garm, Tojikobod, Nurobod, Rushon, and Roshtqala, communities also faced challenges due to disasters that damaged rehabilitated irrigation channels. Consulted local stakeholders noted that they managed to overcome these challenges by repairing and maintaining the channels through strong community engagement and joint contributions and even replicating successful practices in other areas. These local actions were considered as strong sustainability factor as emphasised in FGDs.

161. The use of CBTs supported participation in orchard, agroforestry development, storage construction/rehabilitation, while also addressing immediate consumption needs. However, delays in disbursement and complications in account access, particularly for families of migrant workers, affected effectiveness.

Drinking water supply systems (DWSS)⁸⁷

162. Besides investments in the expansion of irrigation infrastructure, which improved water access for over 3,600 hectares of land, the project also invested in rehabilitation of 50 DWSS, which in total benefited approximately 21,260 individuals⁸⁸. The evaluation found that DWSS contributed to improved household water security, reducing the burden of water collection (particularly for women), and enabling communities to allocate more time and resources to productive and livelihood-enhancing activities. The DWSS also contributed to small-scale food production, through enhanced home gardening and food processing possibilities that such access to water brought.

163. The evaluation found that DWSS activities, like repair or construction of drinking water supply systems (gravity-fed systems, boreholes, handpumps, reservoirs), construction or rehabilitation of damaged or outdated water pipelines and tanks addressed a foundational need in rural communities, most of which had scarce access to a reliable and clean water supply before the project. In previously untargeted and underserved areas, women and girls had spent considerable time collecting water, often with adverse effects on their health and wellbeing. FGDs participants, and especially women, in Rasht, Tojikobod, Nurobod,

⁸⁷ Output 2.2: Improved water management for drinking water and small-scale irrigation.

⁸⁸ Ibid.

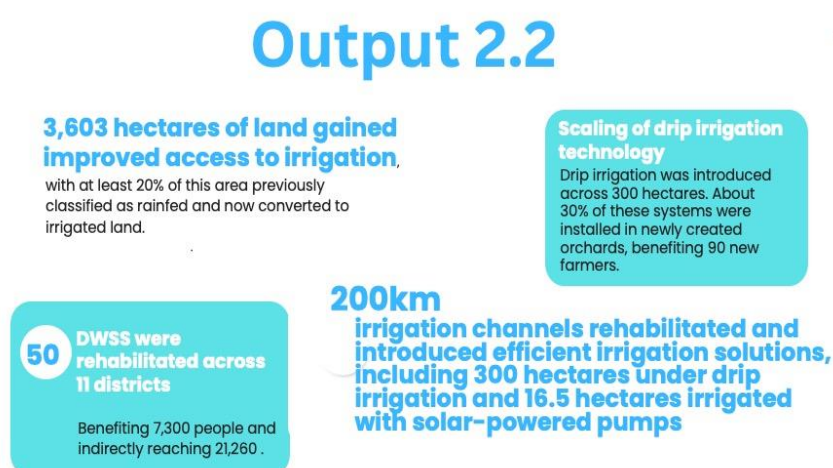
Khovaling, Muminobod, Rushon, Shugnon, and Roshtqala where the DWSS activity was implemented, shared how their lives have changed with the installation of the system. Before DWSS, women and their children spent significant time collecting water for drinking, washing, and even for livestock. Carrying heavy water loads negatively affected women's health and time efficiency for other duties. After DWSS installation, this burden was significantly reduced, allowing for improvements in caregiving, nutrition and small-scale agricultural production. The DWSS has helped improve health benefits through more consistent access to water for communities and households at large, which holds a strong transformative potential for such investments.

164. The evaluation found that access to reliable irrigation reactivated dormant agricultural land, transformed previously underutilized or barren land into productive agricultural areas., and supported the expansion of orchard and agricultural land management. Such investments also brought significant contributions to the improvement of the enabling environment for agricultural production and livelihoods, empowering local communities and individuals to invest in agriculture and innovation, as also emphasized by local stakeholders consulted for the purpose of this evaluation. For instance, field observations, FGDs and KIIs indicated that the rehabilitation and cleaning of canals, along with improvements in agricultural irrigation, had a substantial and wide-ranging impact on local communities. These interventions enabled the greening of villages, expansion of cultivated land, and diversification of crop production, including the use of household plots for higher-value crops such as fruits, vegetables and herbs. Community members associated these changes with increased economic opportunities and improved livelihoods in supported communities, describing renewed water access as a key driver of local prosperity, while also highlighting that improved access to safe drinking water enhanced overall well-being and resilience, creating an enabling environment for sustained development gains.



Drinking water supply system, GBAO
Photo by Gufronjon Ayubjonov

Figure 22. Achievements of results under Component 2 (Output 2.2)



Source: WFP Project monitoring data 2020-2025

165. However, functionality gaps were observed in elevated or off-grid areas where the electricity supply or water sources were inconsistent, limiting the reliability of water access. Field observations also noted that some risks related to the approach to rehabilitation/construction of water infrastructure, which was not always the most feasible in given climate context. The project rightly prioritised areas are highly susceptible to climate-related hazards such as floods and mudflows, where water system sustainability is fragile generally. Such vulnerability remained, particularly in mountainous regions exposed to landslides and floods, demanding repeated rehabilitation and/or cleaning, adding costs for maintenance and management. This was specifically the case where the project used external piping, which required frequent repairs, increasing maintenance costs. These risks periodically reversed infrastructure gains and also created frustration among community members, showcasing that more efforts need to be invested in finding more sustainable ways to support water infrastructure. Moreover, planning processes did not consistently account for geographic variations; in mountainous areas, households situated at higher elevations experienced reduced water access due to insufficient water pressure, stemming from inadequate consideration of topography during system design. Many local communities addressed such challenges by mobilizing volunteer labour (*hashars*) and pooling financial resources to restore the damaged infrastructure. Such local efforts are commendable. However, they would not have been necessary had the project adequately accounted for geographic and topographic conditions during the planning and design phases. The reliance on voluntary labour and local financial contributions reflected a gap in the selection of an appropriate implementation approach, which could have been avoided through more thorough technical assessments and context-specific engineering solutions. At the same time, the strong engagement and initiative demonstrated by local communities reflected a high degree of ownership and commitment. These efforts were critical during implementation and have the potential to contribute to the sustainability of project assets during the maintenance phase.

Investment in storage facilities

166. Evaluation found that the 112 storage facilities⁸⁹ that have been constructed/rehabilitated by the project have benefited not only project beneficiaries but also broader community members across 11 targeted districts, storing approximately 1,757 metric tonnes of agricultural produce. Facilities enabled better post-harvest management, allowing farmers to store products until market conditions would be conducive for sale. This, in turn, supported more stable incomes and reduced losses, particularly in areas where older infrastructure had deteriorated, as corroborated by unanimously positive stakeholder feedback on their added value. Beneficiary feedback also confirmed that these facilities improved food availability throughout the seasons. The collective ownership approach encouraged shared use of assets. However, some sites experienced administrative challenges, such as construction delays and fines imposed by local authorities. For example, the construction of community storage facilities in Tojikobod and Nurobod districts encountered legal and administrative obstacles that affected implementation timelines. In these districts, construction was halted due to a fine imposed by the district government organization. According to beneficiaries, prior consultations with local authorities had led them to believe that no additional permissions were required, as the storage facility was part of an approved project. Despite this, the fine was later issued and ultimately shared equally between the beneficiaries and the implementing NGO. This incident highlights the need for clearer communication and coordination with all relevant governmental bodies to avoid similar disruptions in future community-based infrastructure projects.

⁸⁹ WFP 2025; Final project report.



Community storage, Khatlon
Photo by Shamsiya Shamsiddinova

The evaluation found that income gains were achieved through local and domestic markets, with shares of 68 percent and 39 percent, respectively.⁹⁰ These achievements correspond to reconstructed ToC outputs on storage facilities, solar cookers, greenhouses, and market intelligence, all of which were designed to strengthen value chains, diversify livelihoods, and improve food and nutrition security (Figure 5).

Household-level renewable technologies⁹¹

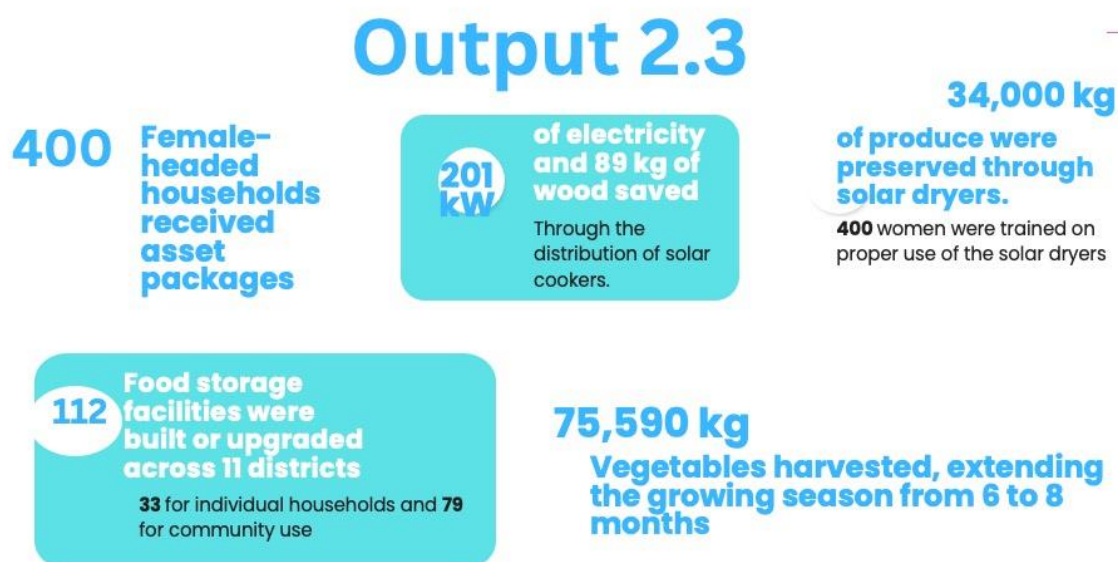
167. The project introduced support packages (greenhouses, solar dryers and cookers) to 400 female-headed households, paired with training in horticulture, food processing and entrepreneurship. According to the project monitoring data, as a result, approximately 75,590 kg of produce was harvested through greenhouses, and 33,920 kg were preserved using solar dryers,⁹² with beneficiaries citing improvements in self-sufficiency and income generation in FGDs, including extension of production seasons and diversification of food products. Evaluation found that these efforts in support to female-headed households contributed to the empowerment of rural women and the enhancement of their economic resilience. For illustration, women, particularly in Tojikobod and Garm districts, but also in RRP and Khatlon regions, reported success in maintaining their assets and enhancing production of a range of seasonal crops as corroborated by site observations, reflecting the overall success of the intervention.

⁹⁰ WFP 2025; Final project report.

⁹¹ Output 2.3: Provision of and training to utilize green houses, renewable energy and climate proof post-harvest storage facilities established to withstand long-term climate change

⁹² WFP 2025; Final project report

Figure 23. Achievements of results under Component 2 (Output 2.3)



Source: WFP Project monitoring data 2020-2025

168. However, evaluation found more varied outcomes in the Pamir region, as exemplified in Ishkoshim and RRS districts, where beneficiaries utilised greenhouses well to grow crops such as tomatoes and cucumbers. In contrast, Shugnon district in the same region encountered challenges in terms of low engagement and underutilization of assets, as confirmed by site visits which observed minimal use of greenhouses, mainly for basic greens, while the quality of cultivation was limited. Additionally, other distributed assets such as solar cookers and fruit dryers were not in active use and were instead stored away, indicating a lack of sustained interest or capacity to manage the equipment effectively. The main reasoning for the underuse was cited by beneficiaries to be difficulty to maintain greenhouses in harsh climate in the mountainous region, as well as general lack of capacity or continued interest of beneficiaries to maintain these assets.

169. The findings of this evaluation confirm that, overall, project's targeting of the most vulnerable groups, such as widowed or divorced women living with children and elderly parents added value, particularly as income-generating opportunities provided through the project were, in many instances, the only available means of economic support for these households. The intervention contributed to improved household income, food security and women's empowerment, as noted above. However, many beneficiaries noted that the greenhouses provided were too small to fully meet their needs. In addition, in some high-altitude areas of GBAO, the greenhouse model was not suitable for the local climatic conditions. Beneficiaries in these locations generally reported no tangible benefits or income from the greenhouses, indicating limited effectiveness of this component in those specific contexts. In addition, some recipients fully engaged with the opportunities, expanding production and selling surplus products. Others lacked the motivation or capacity to utilize the assets, which was found to related to the need for stronger follow-up and advisory by the project along with tailored support.

170. The project initially planned to integrate stronger follow up by engaging with formal women's groups in targeted communities. However, general absence of more organised women groups in these regions limited peer learning and collective action. The project facilitated 44 WhatsApp groups bringing together women who benefited from such interventions to engage in informal exchanges. KIIs and FGDs confirmed the utility of such tools, though many stakeholders raised issue of limited access to internet, possession of devices or minimal digital literacy, which reduced reach.

171. Despite specific challenges encountered in certain areas, the component demonstrated strong beneficiary satisfaction and a high rate of output achievement, in some cases exceeding targets. Therefore, the evaluation rated the progress towards results under the component 2 as **highly satisfactory** overall.⁹³

Cumulative transformative potential of the project

172. This section assesses the extent to which the project achieved transformative change through its immediate outputs and short-term outcomes, particularly in relation to sustainable improvements in livelihoods, social inclusion, and resilience. It considers both the direct benefits experienced by target communities and the broader structural shifts that may signal lasting change in systems, behaviours, or institutions. The analysis draws on evidence from across project components and stakeholder feedback to provide a balanced perspective on results and remaining challenges. Detailed overview of outcome data is presented in Annex 6.

173. The evaluation found that the project has contributed significantly to improved livelihoods, and more efficient use of resources, in targeted rural areas. Farmers who made use of the Hydromet's information services, noted improvements in planning and more effective use of irrigation and agricultural production infrastructure. Material inputs (assets and equipment) and technical knowledge supported resilience building and livelihood diversification. Orchard and agroforestry development, irrigation and DWSS improvements, along with other climate resilient technologies were cited by stakeholders as key enablers of positive change, with some evidence of replication by local actors suggesting early signs of sustainability. For instance, a local farmer cited *"I had land, but no tools or support to use it. When the project gave me fencing, a water barrel, and seedlings, I finally felt like I could make the land productive."* Households experienced improvements in food production and livelihoods, improved access to water, reduced time spent on water collection, and overall better adaptability to climate factors.

Figure 24. Results against outcome indicators



Source: WFP Project monitoring data 2020-2025

174. At the same time, the evaluation found that transformative effects were not uniformly catalysed across all groups and locations. Persistent systemic barriers and limited targeting of specific vulnerable populations (persons with disabilities, and those without digital access) reduced the potential for inclusive outcomes, as discussed further in Section 2.5. While female-headed households received productive assets, the support did not translate into broader transformative change at the community or societal level, as the project did not specifically aim to influence underlying gender norms or structural barriers to women's empowerment. Such broader impact would have required deliberate efforts that the project did not manage

⁹³ See the applied rating scale in Annex 10

to catalyse, including community engagement, support for women's collective action, and institutional linkages to strengthen women's access to rights and resources.

175. Beneficiary feedback identified additional challenges, including instances of non-use of distributed assets due to bad quality (e.g. water pipes that were placed too shallow and are damaged by water or snow in Shugnon district of GBAO); dissatisfaction with targeting and beneficiary selection approaches (feedback from some beneficiaries from Shugnon, Ishkoshim and Nurobod); and infrastructure vulnerability due to environmental exposure in all targeted districts of GBAO and Nurobod and Tojikobod of DRS. Delays in cash-based transfers and difficulties accessing accounts weakened the effectiveness of the CBT modality. Furthermore, the provision of one-time training was considered by all stakeholders as insufficient for sustained capacity development, particularly in conservative or remote areas where more continuous or consistent support is required. These findings indicate that the project delivered a range of tangible output level results with emerging transformative potential, but it did not manage to fully catalyse the potential of deeper institutional engagement and the development of support systems which would be in position to maintain and scale productive investments.

176. The evaluation rated the transformative potential of the project as **satisfactory** overall,⁹⁴ considering its contributions to improved livelihoods, resource efficiency, and early signs of sustainability through asset use and replication by local actors, despite persisting challenges related to systemic inclusion barriers, infrastructure vulnerability, and limitations in institutional engagement.

4.2. To what extent did the project adapt to external changes, including risks and assumptions, to continue delivering benefits to the target groups?

Finding 8. The project maintained the capacity to adapt to external changes and evolving contextual risks, by adjusting operational modalities, technical design and institutional coordination. However, these adaptations were in some cases delayed or partial, and their effectiveness was influenced by procedural constraints, limited anticipatory mechanisms, and variable stakeholder engagement.

177. As detailed in previous section, the period between project design (2017) and implementation (2021) was marked by several shocks, including the COVID-19 pandemic, economic volatility, and ongoing institutional restructuring and turnover both within the government and WFP. The inception phase was used to revalidate assumptions, revise activity locations, engage with new actors in the targeted district, and identify overlaps with activities implemented by other development partners. These measures informed the adjustment of geographical coverage to minimize duplication and better align with local needs. Revisions were also made to the types of assets to be delivered and to the selection of delivery modalities based on consultations, such as the decision to provide pre-assembled greenhouses in response to community preferences, which required formal negotiation with the GCF. These negotiations caused further delays until mid-2023, limiting the project's ability provide timely benefits for target groups (See also Section 2.3 on efficiency).

178. When it comes to the institutional landscape, the project faced turnover of senior management in Hydromet, which underwent changes in leadership that impacted continuity and coordination in key decisions related to the MoU and launching ICT services. Despite these constraints, the project successfully handed over the ICT platform to the agency while simultaneously securing alternative arrangements with a local NGO to ensure continued service provision through an advertisement-supported model.

179. Adaptations were also made to improve coordination at the subnational level. In some instances, district-level working groups reprioritized infrastructure investments or selected new sites based on community-level vulnerability assessments. For example, in Nurobod district, the installation of a new

⁹⁴ See the applied rating scale in Annex 10

drinking water system in Kaftarguzar village despite pressure from local authorities to redirect support to a more centrally located village was welcome given that Kaftarguzar is a remote mountain village with poor infrastructure and limited access.⁹⁵ WFP's and local NGO's persistent efforts to keep this initially selected village despite its more difficult access and conditions was praised for the project's prioritisation of the most vulnerable and marginalised communities, ensuring that needs-based planning was upheld despite logistical and political challenges.

180. When it comes to broader **socioeconomic factors**, the project was implemented within a deteriorating economic environment, including rising inflation, reduced remittance inflows, and increased costs of inputs such as construction materials. Cash-based transfers were used to compensate for participation in labour-intensive activities, but the disbursement process was affected by administrative bottlenecks and banking access limitations, especially for households reliant on male migrant workers. The project did not establish an alternative financial delivery mechanism for such cases, which resulted in delays and reduced benefits for affected participants.

181. The project was also affected by socio-cultural constraints affecting participation, particularly among women. To mitigate potential adverse effects in conservative districts, training sessions and consultations were structured to include separate meetings for women and men, thereby improving accessibility and uptake.

182. The project encountered challenges to obtain prior approvals from regional and district authorities in the GBAO region before implementing community-level consultations, particularly following the political unrest in 2022. Project activities have been subject to heightened government scrutiny since then. This approval process, which had not been anticipated during project design, led to some delays, including a five-month delay in four of the eleven project districts. The project was adapted by postponing implementation and reallocating activities across districts for 2023 and 2024. This response reflected a flexible adjustment mechanism, although it also highlighted the need for more proactive risk forecasting and stakeholder mapping during the design phase.

183. As noted in previous section, the project appropriately targeted areas highly exposed to climate-related hazards, investing in strengthening community resilience to such risks. Nevertheless, climate-related hazards, such as landslides, flash floods, droughts, and an earthquake, disrupted implementation across multiple sites, inevitably presenting operational challenges that could not be fully mitigated. To address some of these challenges as they arose, modifications were made to the design and positioning of irrigation canals and drinking water systems, including risk-sensitive reconstruction of previously damaged infrastructure. As part of this, 200 kilometres of irrigation channels were rehabilitated and 50 drinking water systems were installed, with disaster-related damage considered a key design factor. However, in some communities, rehabilitated canals were subsequently damaged by mudflows, floods or landslides, which in certain cases reversed the project's gains within a short period, as was the case in several districts of the Republican Subordination. In response, communities mobilised volunteer groups to clean the canals weekly during the irrigation season, maintaining access to water despite the damage. FGD participants reported that in some locations, pipelines installed by the project were washed away, which was corroborated by field observations which also showed that pipe sizes were not always appropriate for local conditions, resulting in frequent blockages. Respondents emphasised that the size and installation depth of the pipes should have been better adapted to local environmental conditions to prevent such recurring damage.

184. These events highlighted the limitations of ex-ante infrastructure risk mitigation during design and the absence of a contingency strategy or better planning for climate-adaptable approaches, to ensure sustainability.

185. **Environmental and social risks** were identified through baseline assessments and the

⁹⁵ The road connecting the village to the district centre is in poor condition, making transportation and service delivery difficult. Electricity was only introduced to the village in 2015, highlighting its long-standing isolation and underdevelopment.

Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS) screening process. These risks were addressed through a combination of participatory planning, gender-targeted programming, and community feedback mechanisms. Identified risks included both social and environmental concerns, such as waste generated from the construction of small-scale storage facilities (e.g. wood cuttings, concrete residues, cement bags), the use of paints and iron sheets, health and safety risks during construction activities, the involvement of pregnant and lactating women in physically demanding labour, organic waste from storage facilities, and potential toxicity from the improper storage or overapplication of organic fertilizers. The project aimed to address food insecurity and income vulnerability through asset creation and skills development in climate-resilient agricultural practices. This enabled some households to adopt improved techniques for water use efficiency, crop diversification, and soil conservation, thereby enhancing adaptive capacity at the household level. While the inclusion of female-headed households was a positive feature, persons with disabilities were not explicitly targeted, and their specific needs were not systematically addressed.

Analysis of assumptions underpinning the reconstructed ToC

186. The evaluation found that several of the underlying assumptions identified in the project's results framework influenced the extent to which outputs translated into outcomes and outcomes into transformative impacts. The findings show that many assumptions held sufficiently to enable achievement of planned outputs (reflected in the high proportion of log frame targets met). However, several critical assumptions related to institutional stability, environmental conditions, and equitable access did not consistently hold. This limited the depth and sustainability of transformative outcomes, especially in terms of gender equality, inclusivity, and resilience to recurrent climate shocks.

187. Concretely, for Component 1, the assumption of institutional stability and continuous technical capacity within Hydromet was only partially valid. Leadership turnover and limited staff retention constrained the sustainability of capacity gains, despite investments in hardware, software, and training. Similarly, the assumption that farmers would have sufficient digital literacy and access to ICT services was not fully met. This limited equitable access to climate advisories, particularly among women and marginalized groups in remote areas, reducing the reach of ICT-based services.

188. For Component 2, several assumptions related to environmental stability and market access were challenged. Climate-related shocks, including floods and mudflows, directly affected the durability of irrigation and water systems. While local communities mobilized to repair damage, the persistence of such events demonstrates that the assumption of "no major environmental disruptions" did not consistently hold. Moreover, the assumption that market linkages would be stable and accessible was only partially valid. Uptake of market information services and the utilization of storage facilities depended heavily on external economic factors, including inflation, rising input costs, and limited transport connectivity, which were outside the project's direct control.

189. At the outcome level, the project assumed that female-headed households and other vulnerable groups would have the capacity to fully utilize distributed assets. This assumption was valid in some contexts, where women successfully expanded production and engaged in marketing. However, in high-altitude or socio-culturally conservative areas, limited follow-up support, absence of organized women's groups, and climatic constraints affected the extent to which higher level of results was possible to achieve.

190. **Accountability risks** were addressed by putting in place grievance and complaint mechanisms, as further discussed in the EQ 4.3 below.

4.3. How effectively were the feedback and grievance mechanisms, as well as reporting processes, implemented to enhance project management, accountability, and learning?

Finding 9. The project's accountability mechanisms were in place and in use, with evidence of WFP's follow up and response to grievances.

191. The project employed a multi-tiered feedback and monitoring system designed to enhance accountability, ensure responsiveness to operational challenges, and facilitate adaptive management. For

instance, the project established Community Feedback Mechanisms (CFM) in all targeted districts, operationalized through CPs. A toll-free number and suggestion boxes were placed at project sites, government buildings and WFP offices. CPs served as the primary interface for collecting and documenting community feedback, with tasks to systematically record how grievance reports were addressed at local level or escalated to the national level for resolution. WFP records show that the Agency received 94 calls in 2023 and 7 calls in 2024.

192. The review of CFM data, project records and as corroborated by interviews, a significant portion of recorded grievances pertained to delays in CBT disbursements. These delays were attributed to administrative constraints, including expired beneficiary contracts with banks, errors in beneficiary identification numbers, expired identification documents, and inconsistent data entry. Several cases involved incorrect names or mismatches in documentation, which complicated verification and delayed payments. Particularly in the second year of implementation, the system faced limitations in handling re-enrolment when beneficiaries or their relatives had already been registered in previous cycles. These issues were not foreseen during design and required subsequent mitigation measures, but also many of them were beyond control of the project given that the project could not address issues with personal documents of the beneficiaries. Grievances were managed with case-by-case follow-up, mainly through exploring modifications to improve enrolment and payment cycles. Still, such grievances had some persistent negative impact on motivation or, in isolated cases, interruptions in implementation.

193. Another consistent grievance area related to eligibility criteria, particularly for the distribution of greenhouses, generating substantial feedback. Criteria stipulated that recipients must be women, heads of households, under the age of 60, who are the primary income providers. The age criterion was widely debated, with concerns raised about the exclusion of older women despite their vulnerability. CPs justified the limitation on the grounds that the physical demands of greenhouse maintenance required a level of mobility not feasible for older recipients.

194. Although there is no record of formal complaints related to exclusion on the basis of gender or disability, the design and use of CFMs did not appear to be tailored to the needs of persons with limited mobility, low literacy, or lack of access to communication technologies. Interviewees also noted that there were no alternative or adapted grievance channels for those unable to engage through suggestion boxes or in-person reporting.

2.5. Gender and equality

5.1. How effectively were gender and equity considerations integrated and monitored throughout the project, ensuring that all target groups, including women, persons with disability and marginalized communities, benefited equitably from project outputs and interventions?

Finding 10. The project achieved considerable success in embedding gender-responsive design and delivering targeted support to female-headed households, leading to transformative results in livelihoods and resilience. However, the absence of tailored support for persons with disabilities limited the inclusiveness of the project.

Gender

195. The project integrated gender considerations across all components, guided by a Gender Action Plan and informed by a gender equality and women's empowerment (GEWE) analysis. It consistently tracked male and female participation, achieving near gender parity (49–51 percent women), with prioritisation of female-headed households for productive assets like greenhouses and drip irrigation. Additionally, women participated in community-level planning and consultations, though their level of influence varied by district, as well as a range of trainings on agricultural production approaches. Gender-sensitive design, implementation, and monitoring processes contributed to targeted outreach and the inclusion of female

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beneficiaries, particularly those from food-insecure, female-headed households. WFP's efforts resulted in incorporation of gender-responsive adaptation planning in DDPs. Partnership between WFP and UN Women in provision of training on business fundamentals, leadership, financial literacy and entrepreneurial skills, addressing issues of stigma, self-esteem and psychological resilience was also beneficial and added value. Women benefiting from such measures reported improved ability to manage household assets and to sell surplus products locally. Other climate change capacity strengthening and awareness raising campaigns (e.g., behaviour change events and campaigns to disseminate information on impact of climate change to livelihoods, nutrition, and health, the International Day of Rural Women and World Food Day) reached approximately 120,000 people, of whom 47 percent were women (56,400), slightly below the target of 60,000 women.⁹⁶ For instance, one woman beneficiary noted *"The trainings helped me a lot. I learned to grow better crops and even started drying herbs and fruits, which I now sell as tea blends. People ask for them at weddings!"*

196. The project's efforts to promote gender-responsive resilience building through provision of bundled asset packages, combined with technical and financial training, were designed to enhance women's roles in household food production, preservation, and local marketing. A woman beneficiary also cited: *"Before this, I barely left the house. Now I go to trainings, I earn my own income and even have a bank card in my name. I feel more confident and respected."* In addition, women had access to community-managed storage infrastructure and participated in training on food processing and value addition. These measures were found to be beneficial and transformative, as reported by beneficiaries who confirmed they have helped them to increase control over household assets, improve food availability throughout the year, and reduce reliance on negative coping strategies. For instance, in one targeted area, women arranged pre-agreements with restaurants and cafés to provide their greenhouse produce, building on their skillsets and entrepreneurial abilities. One woman, for example, made USD 150 extra from just seedling sales. Such outcomes indicate that the intervention contributed to both practical improvements in women's daily lives and broader resilience outcomes, supporting their increased participation in productive and income-generating activities.

197. For instance, women in the DRS and Khatlon regions shared that access to greenhouses enabled them to grow a variety of greens and vegetables, even during the winter. This not only improved household nutrition but also created opportunities to earn income through the sale of surplus produce. Additionally, women reported learning new skills in food preservation, including how to can and store vegetables for the off-season. The use of fruit dryers also played an important role in livelihoods, given that households can now dry fruits, herbs and leafy greens with improved quality, allowing them to store nutritious foods for winter consumption helping families maintain a more diverse and nutritious diet throughout the year. Surplus is also sold locally, generating small but valuable income while strengthening food security at the household level, as emphasized by FGD participants. Evaluation found that these interventions not only eased the daily workload of women but also empowered them with knowledge and tools to support their families' wellbeing in a sustainable way.

198. The project also invested in facilitating informal peer exchange among women through WhatsApp groups in absence of more formal local women structures. in the targeted districts. A total of 44 WhatsApp groups were formed, each comprising 8 to 10 women from the same or nearby villages, to facilitate exchange, coordination, and joint marketing of produce. While this informal structure enabled a degree of peer support and collaboration, limitations such as uneven access to mobile devices and internet connectivity constrained full participation.

Disability inclusion

199. Evaluation found that the targeting of persons with disabilities was not explicit under any project components. No adaptive delivery mechanisms or inclusion strategies were developed to ensure participation of people with physical, cognitive or sensory impairments. This omission indicates that disability inclusion was not operationalized despite its mention in the broader inclusion objectives of the project.

⁹⁶ WFP Project monitoring data 2020-2025

M&E framework and performance against gender and disability indicators

200. WFP collected sex- and age-disaggregated data, and maintained gender-responsive monitoring and analysis, including the aforementioned GEWE analysis, which informed several mid-course adjustments, including separate consultation sessions for women, revised training formats and enhanced gender-disaggregated reporting. However, evaluation noted inconsistencies and gaps in data disaggregation and limited evidence of systematic gender analysis across the project implementation and reporting. For illustration, the baseline and outcome monitoring reports for 2022 and 2023 included sex disaggregation and some age categorization, but inconsistencies were found in the age groupings and, in some cases, the complete absence of age breakdowns, which limited comparability across reporting periods. Further analysis of beneficiary data revealed that disaggregation by age and disability was not systematically applied across key datasets, including those related to assets, CBT and training records (See an overview of data availability in Table 8).

Table 8. Disaggregated data by type of information

Disaggregated data	Information on assets	Information on CBT	Information on PISCA participants	CP's annual reports	Project annual reports
<i>sex</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>age</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>disability</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>No</i>

201. Based on the assessment above, gender integration is rated as **satisfactory**,⁹⁷ while disability inclusion is rated as **highly unsatisfactory**.⁹⁸

2.6. Sustainability

6.1 To what extent is it likely that the benefits of the project will continue after WFP work ceases?

Finding 11. The sustainability prospects are moderate. The project established foundations for sustainability through policy integration, infrastructure development and capacity strengthening. However, several sustainability conditions remain fragile, including the need for continued financing, formal asset maintenance arrangements, stronger linkages to financial systems, and institutional capacity.

202. The evaluation findings show that the project contributed to the establishment of important and strong individual behavioural change results, as well as to institutional and community-level foundations for sustainability of achieved results, despite a lack of a formal sustainability strategy or approach.

203. At the institutional level, the project has created solid foundations for Hydromet to continue to provide and upgrade its climate data collection and dissemination activities, through investing in ICT equipment, training and advisory. The cascade training model used for PISCA, climate awareness and nutrition-related activities leveraged local trainers to expand reach and multiply knowledge, which was found to be a good investment in sustainable local knowledge and practices. Project activities were also embedded in district-level planning through their incorporation into DDPs, with formal approvals from district

⁹⁷ See the applied rating scale in Annex 10.

⁹⁸ Ibid.

parliaments, which present solid framework for continuity, particularly where local authorities remain engaged. Key sustainability challenges include limited staffing and high turnover (notably in Hydromet), and insufficient financial continuity beyond the project period. Several institutions expressed that their continued engagement would depend on the availability of financial resources and technical support, particularly given capacity limitations, which points to conditional institutional sustainability. Other structural constraints, such as limited absorption capacity, overlapping mandates among institutions, and the absence of a dedicated national coordination mechanism for climate finance remain barriers to scaling up.

204. Evaluation found that the integration of climate information services into farming practices, through platforms developed under Component 1, had varied uptake. The reasoning for this was that the coverage was not universal, and continued access to the ICT-based advisory systems is reliant on sustained funding and institutional commitment from Hydromet. Although the system has been formally handed over, there is limited evidence of institutional readiness to manage the platform independently. The sustainability of outcomes was also found to depend heavily on individual motivation and local contextual conditions, which can change in medium to long term. For illustration, the project supported immediate economic resilience and knowledge gains, but its delivery mechanisms did not fully address systemic barriers such as lack of financial services for rural women, insecure land tenure, or market constraints in remote districts, which would have promoted sustainable transformative potential of the benefits.

205. When it comes to sustainability of *capacity strengthening and behavioural change among beneficiaries* (farmers, community members), the investment in capacity strengthening through training in orchard and greenhouse management, food processing, entrepreneurship and business development, and climate information usage has brought positive individual-level results. Most stakeholders consulted in the evaluation process confirmed the enhancement of their awareness and knowledge on these themes, with noted changes in their practices and behaviours when it comes to their agricultural engagement or livelihoods. However, the one-off nature of most training sessions and limited follow-up constrained deeper behavioural change in some areas, particularly for digital tools and financial management, and wider financial empowerment among women.

206. Community-level ownership was reinforced through the participatory planning of asset interventions, including the selection of project sites by district working groups and the formation of project management committees at the *jamoat* level. These mechanisms contributed to local accountability and oversight, and were critical in identifying context-appropriate interventions, which is a strong factor in their subsequent sustainability.

207. The project promoted a model of shared ownership for community assets maintenance, such as storage facilities and water supply systems. In multiple locations, local authorities and beneficiaries contributed land, labour or materials, which is indicative of initial commitment. The project also promoted and established the community agreements on maintenance of assets in most supported communities. These were found to be a very important sustainability factor by all interviewed stakeholders. However, the maintenance of these assets depends on continued local mobilization and availability of resources. On a positive note, stakeholder feedback confirms that most assets, notably water supply and storage facilities, have had strong community maintenance commitment, given the value-added of such supply for local communities. However, evaluation noted some challenges, including those related to the fact that, for example, some drinking water systems face issues related to electricity supply and pump capacity in high-altitude areas, or inadequate/substandard piping for local context. These have been found to present a higher risk of functional decline over time.

208. Related to this is the *financial sustainability* of benefits, which is found to be uneven across activities. For example, the provision of drip irrigation systems and solar-powered water pumps demonstrated initial success, with reported uptake by farmers beyond the project. However, long-term operation and maintenance costs, particularly related to solar equipment (e.g. battery replacement) or water supply pipes or irrigation canals were not systematically addressed through establishing stronger or more formal financing mechanisms. There is currently no evidence of revolving funds or subsidy schemes to support replacement or scaling of these technologies.

209. For individual-level interventions such as the distribution of greenhouses, solar dryers and cookers, the likelihood of sustained use depends on the technical appropriateness of the assets and the capacity of beneficiaries to maintain them. While many recipients reported increased income and productivity, there were also cases of underutilization, especially in households with limited labour or interest of families to continue using them. There is also a lack of evidence of the project's contributions or linkages with formalized user groups or cooperatives, which reduces opportunities for collective maintenance and market access.

210. CBT modalities provided short-term incentives and consumption support, but they were not linked to ongoing financial inclusion initiatives. Beneficiaries, particularly women, were not systematically linked to savings mechanisms, bank accounts, or microcredit schemes. This limits the extent to which income gains can be capitalized or reinvested over time.

211. Based on the assessment above, sustainability was rated as **moderately likely**.⁹⁹

2.7. Impact

212. The assessment of impact is found in the reconstructed ToC, which envisaged that improved climate information services, diversified and resilient livelihoods, and strengthened water and market systems would contribute to broader outcomes of climate adaptation, food security, and social inclusion. The following analysis examines the extent to which these longer-term pathways have begun to materialise.

7.1. To what extent has the project contributed to sustainable development outcomes, including low-emission pathways, climate resilience, and social impact?

Finding 12. The project contributed meaningfully to climate resilience and social development outcomes, with selective contributions to low-emission practices.

213. Overall, evaluation findings indicate that the project made contributions to enhancing **climate adaptation** among targeted vulnerable communities by supporting adaptation measures that addressed structural and environmental vulnerabilities. Investments in the establishment of the climate advisory systems and integration of climate services into productive practices strengthened household and community-level adaptive capacity. These investments also enhanced public climate service provision and have a potential to enhance evidence-based governance of climate action in Tajikistan. The expansion of orchards, agroforestry, the rehabilitation of irrigation and water supply systems, along with the installation of solar-powered water pumps were found to have contributed to increased agricultural productivity and adaptive methods while reducing and/or mitigating the exposure to drought and land degradation. These findings align with the project's ToC, which anticipated that improved climate information, adaptive practices, and resilient infrastructure would collectively strengthen household and community resilience (Figure 5).

214. In particular, by targeting erosion- and wider climate risk- prone regions, the interventions contributed to diversification and broader land use, reduced climate-related risks, and an improvement of the efficiency of water use. These efforts aligned with national adaptation priorities as outlined in Tajikistan's National Adaptation Strategy and NDC and contributed to wider climate adaptation efforts.

215. Although the project's primary objective was climate adaptation, several interventions also supported elements of a **low-emission development pathway**, as exemplified by introduction of 400 solar cookers and 400 solar fruit dryers, which reduced reliance on traditional biomass fuels, particularly firewood and coal, which are widely used in rural Tajikistan. According to project monitoring data, these cookers reduced the use of 89 kg of wood per household and had saved approximately 201 kW of electricity since 2023.¹⁰⁰ These reductions contributed to lowering household-level carbon emissions and offered indirect

⁹⁹ See the applied rating scale in Annex 10.

¹⁰⁰ WFP 2025; final project report.

health co-benefits through reduced indoor air pollution. Additionally, the integration of solar energy for water pumping in off-grid areas allowed smallholder farmers to irrigate land without resorting to fossil fuel-powered systems. While limited in scale, these interventions introduced alternative energy models that have relevance for future replication and expansion. Such low-emission contributions was not an explicit objective in the original project design or ToC but are consistent with the broader goals of enhancing climate resilience and promoting sustainable rural development, and may represent longer-term co-benefits of the intervention. Overall, these findings reflect the reconstructed ToC outcomes of diversified livelihoods, improved water systems and market linkages, and enhanced decision-making power for women and girls, all contributing to the higher-level impact of strengthened climate resilience, health, and food security for vulnerable rural communities in Tajikistan (Figure 5).

216. Evaluation found ample evidence of project contributions to the improvement of *social outcomes*, particularly among women-headed households and economically marginalized groups. Contributions to access to productive assets, income-generating opportunities and time-saving technologies, have supported households, and notably female-headed ones, in diversifying livelihood coping methods, expanding income sources and improving food security. Post-distribution assessments indicated enhanced confidence and capacity among beneficiaries (notably women), particularly those participating in linked training sessions provided with UN Women on entrepreneurship and financial literacy. Besides, the indirect contributions of investments in water supply towards reducing the domestic labour burden on women and girls have been significant. In multiple project sites, access to piped water allowed households to reallocate time to childcare, gardening and other productive activities, which FGD participants highlighted as a significant added value of the project. These outcomes supported SDG 2 (Food Security), SDG 5 (Gender Equality), and SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation).

217. At the same time, the ToC highlighted underlying risks linked to institutional arrangements, ownership, and the capacity to sustain interventions. Evaluation evidence indicates that while community-level adoption has been strong, the institutional dimension remains less consolidated, affecting the potential for long-term scaling and systemic change.

218. Impact (prospects) are not rated, as the evaluation was conducted at a time when many of the project's outcomes were still emerging and longer-term impacts could not be reliably assessed. The absence of sufficient outcome-level data and the limited time elapsed since the completion of key activities did not allow for a credible assessment of impact against the project's intended long-term objectives.

2.8. Country ownership

8.1 Were the modes of delivery of the outputs appropriate to build essential/necessary capacities, promote national ownership and ensure the sustainability of the result achieved?

219. Given that the key findings of the assessment of the appropriateness of modes of delivery of the outputs to build essential/necessary capacities was presented in Section 3.6 Sustainability (EQ 6.1), this section will focus on the assessment of national ownership, which is also partially discussed in the Relevance and Efficiency sections of this report.

Finding 13. The project made substantive efforts to promote national ownership by aligning with policy frameworks and engaging key institutions. However, national ownership remained partial and uneven across institutional levels, with limited influence of local actors and underrepresented groups over strategic decisions and outcomes.

220. The project took steps to promote national ownership by aligning with key policy frameworks and working through formal partnerships with central government institutions. These efforts helped position the project within national development and climate policy agenda and facilitated the involvement of government counterparts in technical assessments and oversight processes. The project also convened

national steering committee regularly with chairmanship by the CEP. However, the project faced persistent limitations related to unclear roles of national partners, insufficient technical coordination, and inconsistent visibility and follow-up on agreed actions, which affected the extent to which key national partners remained committed to and felt ownership over the project.

221. Lack of ownership was highlighted as a concern in the MTR (See key findings, conclusions and recommendations in Annex 9), and as a follow up, WFP expressed its intention to enhance national ownership. However, the strained relationship with key counterparts provided limited opportunity to meaningfully implement corrective actions. By project closure, institutional ownership within CEP and the project coordination unit remained constrained, with national stakeholders continuing to express concerns about the lack of systematic involvement in key project decisions.

222. At the subnational level, mechanisms such as district working groups and jamoat-level committees supported contextual adaptation and site-level planning, contributing to sense of ownership. Community participation was largely one-way and consultative, which was not always conducive for local ownership, including among CPs or other local groups or organizations. Engagement with representative structures of vulnerable groups, including persons with disabilities, was minimal. This limited the depth and inclusiveness of ownership at the community level.

223. Based on the assessment above, country ownership is rated as **moderately satisfactory**.¹⁰¹

2.9. Innovativeness in remote areas

9.1 To what extent has the project fostered innovative solutions, thought leadership, and the unlocking of additional climate finance for climate change adaptation and mitigation, and how can these roles be enhanced moving forward?

Finding 14. The project introduced locally innovative, scalable technologies such as drip irrigation systems and solar-powered water pumps, which enhanced water efficiency and supported climate adaptation in remote and resource-constrained settings. Additionally, it developed an ICT-based system for real-time climate and market information, which has a potential to be sustained via a cost-free model financed by advertising.

224. The project fostered innovation primarily through the introduction of context-relevant, scalable technologies aimed at improving resilience in rural agricultural settings. One illustrative example relates to the introduction of drip irrigation systems and solar-powered water pumps, which are a novelty for Tajikistan. These contributed to more efficient and environmentally sustainable water management practices, which add value in sloped and water-scarce areas, showcasing the viability of such approaches in geographies with limited access to conventional irrigation systems or energy infrastructure. Drip irrigation was reported to have reduced soil erosion and enabled improved land use, while solar-powered pumps supported off-grid communities without access to electricity. Another example is orchard fencing, which was considered a novelty by both government agencies and beneficiaries. The fencing was viewed as particularly valuable for protecting young trees from livestock and wildlife, thereby increasing survival rates and safeguarding the investment in orchard development. Although these technologies are not new globally, their introduction into the targeted districts of Tajikistan represented a locally innovative application that was well received by beneficiaries and district-level authorities.

225. The project also supported the development of an ICT-based system for the dissemination of climate and market information. This system included SMS platforms and a Telegram bot that enabled farmers to access real-time, localized advisories and market prices. Although uptake fell short of initial targets due to

¹⁰¹ See the applied rating scale in Annex 10.

delays and technical constraints, the system remains operational and was officially handed over to Hydromet. Due to funding issues, the model developed a financing mechanism based on advertising to sustain the service without cost to users, which represents another institutional innovation.

226. Based on the assessment above, innovativeness is rated as **satisfactory**.¹⁰²

2.10. Replication and scalability

*10.1 To what degree can activities be replicated in other countries or other locations?
and*

11.1 Does the programme have the potential for expanding its scale and impact without increasing the total costs of implementation?

Finding 15. The potential for replication and scaling up the project is primarily linked to strengthening and institutionalizing the models that were tested through the project, including drip irrigation, solar-powered pumps and ICT-based advisory tools, many of which have shown operational viability and relevance. The project's broader scalability potential lies in further consolidation and integration into existing local systems and planning frameworks to ensure broader adoption and sustained impact.

227. The project delivery approaches and modalities have already demonstrated a degree of scalability through the replication of modular solutions such as drip irrigation systems, solar-powered water pumps, the deployment of integrated asset packages for vulnerable households, particularly those headed by women and ICT-based advisory services. Individual models have the scalability potential, as discussed in more detail in previous sections. For instance, the deployment of drip irrigation systems and solar-powered water pumps provided concrete, replicable models that can enhance resource use and off-grid agricultural production in water-scarce and remote areas. Similarly, the ICT-based dissemination mechanism for climate and market information, despite some initial uptake limitations, offered a viable approach for strengthening farmer decision-making at scale.

228. The evaluation found that the potential for further expansion and results at scale lay less in the identification of new models and more in the strategic consolidation of what has already been piloted or tested in the field. The integration of the above-mentioned interventions and other project approaches into local planning and institutional frameworks, along with improved capacity for maintenance and coordination, would make it possible to expand or replicate the interventions in other areas using existing systems, without the need for significant additional funding or new implementation structures. The evaluation also found that achieving greater impact without significantly increasing costs will require a shift from project-based delivery to system-level integration of tested approaches, stronger government co-ownership, better alignment with other climate resilience initiatives implemented by national and international partners, and more explicit sustainability planning.

229. Based on the assessment above, scalability and replicability are rated as **satisfactory**.¹⁰³

2.11. Unexpected results, both positive and negative

12.1 To what degree has the project generated significant positive or negative, unintended or unanticipated results?

230. The project generated several positive unintended effects alongside its planned outcomes. These include, for instance, the PICSA training influence on women to take more proactive role in community

¹⁰² Ibid.

¹⁰³ See the applied rating scale in Annex 10.

processes, despite initial reluctance to participate in mixed-gender training sessions. Consulted local stakeholders cited situations where some women, after the first day of training, transitioned from being silent observers to active participants and contributors to debates.

231. The support to the distribution of community-level assets such as storage facilities, irrigation infrastructure and drinking water supply systems produced wider community benefits. For instance, although some storage units were initially intended for individual use, they were made accessible to multiple households, thereby strengthening communal resource-sharing and social cohesion. Similarly, the extension of water supply infrastructure in certain cases reached adjacent communities not originally targeted under the project, improving access to safe drinking water and reducing associated health risks for a broader population. Women also reported time savings, which they were able to reallocate to other responsibilities, including childcare. Focus group participants noted that this contributed to improved household dynamics and wellbeing.

232. Field observations and interviews with non-beneficiaries revealed that the project had several unintended positive results. In some cases, non-beneficiaries were inspired to replicate interventions after observing tangible benefits among project participants. For instance, several individuals constructed their own greenhouses after witnessing improved yields and income among beneficiaries. In other areas, non-beneficiaries approached local authorities to request access to water infrastructure established by the project within their *jamoats*. These examples suggest that the project generated community-wide interest in climate-resilient technologies and services, contributing to broader awareness and potential uptake beyond the immediate target groups.

233. Despite weak coordination efforts with CEP and its established project management unit, capacity-building efforts under this and other currently implemented interventions of other development partners, including the GCF-funded project, contributed to strengthening CEP's internal expertise. As a result, CEP successfully obtained accreditation to implement future GCF-funded projects and is also considering accreditation with the Adaptation Fund. This accreditation enables CEP to access and manage climate finance directly, strengthening its role as a national implementing entity, strengthening ownership and enhancing its leadership in driving climate adaptation efforts in Tajikistan.

234. The project's activities had both direct and indirect impacts on strengthening the role of women and improving their social standing. Specific efforts targeted vulnerable groups such as divorced and single women, who often experience social exclusion in rural settings. FGD participants indicated that participation in the project marked a turning point for many of these women, as their ability to produce and sell agricultural goods enhanced their confidence and increased their recognition as active and respected community members. In addition, project components such as cash transfers required recipients to possess a passport and a bank card, prompting many rural women to obtain these for the first time. This seemingly minor administrative requirement contributed to a greater sense of financial independence and reinforced their role within households and the broader community.

235. No significant negative unintended effects were identified.

236. The unintended results observed were predominantly positive, and thus considered **satisfactory**¹⁰⁴ in terms of their added value beyond the intended outcomes.

¹⁰⁴ See the applied rating scale in Annex 10.

3. Conclusions and recommendations

3.1. Conclusions

Conclusion 1. Relevance and national ownership

238. The project aligned well with national climate strategies and sectoral policies, and maintained institutional coordination and consistency with national priorities, across areas like climate forecasting, agroforestry, and adaptation planning. The project also demonstrated flexibility and adaptability to changing context, which enhanced the relevance of interventions. However, ownership by national institutions remained limited due to coordination issues, and weak consultation mechanisms at subnational level, particularly with women, people with disabilities, and marginalized groups, who were not sufficiently engaged in decision making or oversight processes. These limitations muted project's full relevance beyond policy coherence and prevented the project to generate the depth of institutional and community ownership required for institutional change and long-term adaptation outcomes.

Conclusion 2. Coherence

239. The project was internally coherent and had a sound conceptual design linking institutional capacity development for climate information services with community-level adaptation interventions. This was a conceptual strength of complementarity between Components 1 and 2, especially given the logic whereby institutional capacity strengthening outcomes (the Hydromet's climate forecasts and advisory services) would be directly utilized to inform agricultural planning and community-level adaptation decisions. However, delays in the rollout of digital tools and gaps in access among certain beneficiary groups constrained the full catalytic potential of these synergies, which was the obstacle to operationalisation of the conceptual design that appeared due to lack of ownership and limited institutional absorption capacity. These challenges reduced the potential for cross-project synergy and adaptive programming and resulted in a rather fragmented set of broadly climate-related projects under the portfolio.

240. External coherence was only partially achieved, with missed opportunities for more systematic collaboration with multilateral actors and technical partners. The project only selectively engaged with multilateral and technical partners (e.g., UN Women, GIZ and the Russian Hydromet) but did not succeed to initiate deeper engagement with other international development partners and climate finance actors. These limitations resulted in fragmented efforts, contributing to further sectoral silos undermining the potential for a more integrated and scalable climate resilience architecture.

Conclusion 3. Efficiency

241. The project effectively managed finances resulting in full disbursement of the GCF allocation, with strategic use of co-financing from WFP and the Government of Tajikistan to cover operational costs. However, the project encountered slow start with delays related to the GCF approval process, MoU signings, procurement bottlenecks, and ICT system limitations affecting CBT payments. A boost in expenditure picked up in 2023-2024, with over 75 percent of spending in this period, allowing for completion of planned outputs under the adapted workplan. These challenges compressed the effective implementation window to just two years, with adjustments to activity design, particularly for greenhouses and solar cookers, which came at the cost of reduced space for adaptive learning and quality assurance. Currency depreciation and inflation further strained the budget, requiring compromises on the quality of certain inputs.

242. Structural inefficiencies in coordination, governance and communication mechanisms, while uneven across the different governance levels, limited the project's efficiency. At the central level, the steering

committee lacked consistent follow-up and clear delineation of roles which limited involvement in decision-making and raised the need for stronger communication on project finances and results. Technical coordination outside formal governance structures remained reactive and fragmented, with limited joint validation of key implementation issues. At the subnational level, implementation was supported by active district working groups, which enabled greater responsiveness to local needs and helped resolve delivery challenges.

Conclusion 4. Effectiveness and adaptive management

243. The project was laid important foundations for climate-resilient development at both community and institutional levels through the delivery of integrated support packages, the rehabilitation and expansion of productive assets, and the strengthening of local climate forecasting and planning capacities. These efforts led to improvements in agricultural productivity, more efficient resource use, increased community engagement in climate adaptation practices, and the initial institutionalisation of climate priorities within district-level planning. At the institutional level, the project contributed to enhanced systems for climate data collection and dissemination, which farmers now increasingly use in their agricultural planning. However, the overall catalytic effect of these contributions remained limited due to constrained institutional absorption capacity and weak ownership, which affected the extent to which the key national institutions could institutionalise and build on.

244. The project's ability to adapt to external shocks contributed to the achievement of results and helped maintain beneficiary engagement. However, the reactive nature of these adaptations confirms the need for more proactive risk management systems and contingency planning to enable timely and inclusive responses. This need is particularly pressing in the context of structural barriers at both societal and institutional levels. At the institutional level, they include delays in financial transfers, inadequate mechanisms for inclusive decision-making, and limited flexibility within implementation frameworks. At the societal level, these barriers include digital exclusion and limited attention to the needs of persons with disabilities. Addressing these barriers is essential to enhance the effectiveness, equity, and sustainability of future interventions.

Conclusion 5. Impact prospects

245. The project confirms that climate adaptation interventions, when strategically designed and locally embedded, can contribute meaningfully to sustainable development outcomes through more inclusive and adaptive rural development. The project's investments in climate-resilient infrastructure, water and land management, livelihood diversification, including activities such as greenhouse-supported crop cultivation, orchard and agroforestry development, and the introduction of solar technologies, contributed to improvements in food security, agricultural productivity, and household resilience, contributed to improvements in food availability, agricultural productivity, and household resilience, particularly among vulnerable and underserved populations. These improvements align with the pathways identified in the reconstructed theory of change, showing that enhanced access to productive assets, climate information, and sustainable practices helped to strengthen adaptive capacity and reduce vulnerability to climate-related shocks.

246. Project's contributions to strengthening institutional capacities remained limited to short-term technical inputs and operational collaboration, without a clearly defined or sustained institutional capacity development approach. Some transformative effects of enhanced capacity of relevant institutions to generate, interpret, and apply climate data for planning purposes were catalysed towards the use and dissemination of climate information for more informed decision-making at national and subnational levels. However, these gains remained concentrated within specific technical units and, limiting their potential for sustained and system-wide impact.

247. The inclusion of gender-responsive approaches reinforced the project's social impact, yielding notable gains in time-use efficiency and economic engagement among women-headed households. The project's investment in relevant low-emission technologies such as solar cookers and water pumps was effective at the household level, but their contribution to broader mitigation goals remained incidental. This

highlights an opportunity for future initiatives to better integrate adaptation and mitigation agendas through more robust monitoring systems.

Conclusion 6. Sustainability, replicability and scale-up potential

248. The sustainability prospects of the project's contributions remain fragile. While the project established a foundation for national and district-level climate data generation, dissemination, and planning, as well as created community assets, the absence of secured financing, structured maintenance systems, durable institutional arrangements, and clear ownership limits the likelihood of sustained results across all components.

249. At the household level, there have been evident improvements in climate adaptive capacity and productivity as well as the ability to anticipate, prepare for, and respond to climate-related shocks through improved access to irrigation, adoption of climate-resilient agricultural practices, and the use of solar technologies. The project showed that climate-resilient assets, such as orchards, agroforestry plots, drip irrigation systems, and solar technologies were valuable, but it also showed that distributing assets is not enough as in many cases, households struggled to maintain or fully benefit from what they received, as they did not know how to use the technology, or lacked confidence, and some simply did not see the value right away. One-off trainings did not lead to lasting change, especially among those with low literacy, limited digital access, or no prior experience in commercial farming. Limited follow-up undermined the depth of behavioural change, especially in areas such as digital engagement, financial inclusion and collective enterprise development.

250. With respect to scalability and replicability, the project has clearly shown that several of its context-specific tested delivery models, such as drip irrigation, solar-powered water pumps, orchard fencing, and an ICT-based climate and market information system, are welcome novel applications in the Tajik context, which are feasible for broader use. However, the project also showed that project's pursuit of new innovations should be accompanied by clear efforts for structured institutionalization of what has already been piloted. Replication at scale will require formal integration into sector strategies, stronger cross-sectoral coordination, and system-level investment frameworks that can support uptake without requiring proportional increases in delivery costs.

Conclusion 7. Gender and equity

251. The project's approach to gender was intentional and resulted in enhanced access to productive assets and capacity-building opportunities for women, particularly food-insecure female-headed households. However, its contributions to systemic gender equality remained limited, particularly when it comes to financial inclusion, land tenure, and collective agency, as the project did not integrate or pursue broader community mobilisation on these issues. The reliance on individual targeting without parallel investment in institutional or community structures that support women's empowerment constrained the sustainability of results.

252. The project failed to meaningfully integrate disability inclusion. Despite broad commitments to equity, no operational strategies or adaptive mechanisms were developed to ensure participation of persons with disabilities, and this group remained largely invisible in both targeting and monitoring frameworks. This omission weakened the project's overall equity outcomes and highlighted a critical gap in inclusive adaptation programming.

253. Moreover, the experience with feedback and grievance mechanisms suggests that while basic accountability structures were in place, achieving inclusive and responsive project management requires more deliberate investment in user-oriented design, especially to address the needs of marginalized groups.

3.2. Lessons

254. The evaluation process resulted in the following key lessons learned, which were presented in the workshop with the CO on 17 July 2025 and which were later on reviewed by the ERG during the commenting

process:

Lesson learned 5. Investment in adaptive infrastructure needs to be coupled with formal maintenance agreements, financing mechanisms and institutional responsibilities to avoid loss of benefits over time.

255. The project showed that embedding formal maintenance arrangements, financing mechanisms and institutional responsibilities from the outset helps adaptive infrastructure investments reach sustainable outcomes. The project supported community assets such as irrigation canals, water systems and greenhouses, and used community agreements and in-kind contributions, which helped to steer commitment and local engagement. However, the absence of systematic maintenance systems for all types of supported assets that would include designated institutional responsibilities, and long-term financing limited the potential for sustained use in some locations. Future projects should build on this positive community engagement by formalizing maintenance responsibilities, incorporating sustainability planning into design stages, and aligning with government or service provider systems to ensure continuity and resilience over time.

Lesson learned 6. Sustained behavioural change in climate resilience is more effectively achieved through multi-stage, iterative capacity strengthening rather than standalone training events.

256. Experience from the project shows that technical and entrepreneurial training enhanced participants' immediate knowledge and skills, particularly among women and vulnerable households. However, changes towards financial literacy, digital engagement and enterprise development require longer-term support to translate knowledge into practice. Future projects can build on these initial successes by adopting phased training models that include follow-up sessions, mentoring and opportunities for practical application. This approach can help consolidate learning, reinforce behavioural change and enhance the sustainability of capacity outcomes.

Lesson learned 7. The scalability of rural resilience interventions depends on the institutionalization of innovative delivery models that have demonstrated operational relevance and effectiveness.

257. The project showcased that locally appropriate technologies, such as drip irrigation systems, solar-powered water pumps and ICT-based climate advisory tools, can be successfully piloted and replicated at the community level. However, the broader uptake of these models was limited by the absence of formal integration into public service delivery frameworks, insufficient alignment with local planning and budgeting cycles, and the lack of sustainable financing mechanisms. This experience suggests that for resilience-building interventions to scale meaningfully and sustainably, future projects should focus on embedding proven models into the strategies, plans, and operational budgets of national and subnational institutions. Country offices and implementing agencies should consider aligning pilot models with sectoral priorities early in the project cycle and establishing institutional pathways for long-term adoption. This can enable scale-up without proportionally increasing delivery costs, while also fostering government ownership and policy continuity.

Lesson learned 8. Financial inclusion and economic empowerment outcomes require explicit linkages to formal systems such as savings, credit, and market access mechanisms.

258. The project enhanced women's access to productive assets and income-generating opportunities. However, its limited linkages with formal financial services and absence of integration with producer cooperatives constrained the potential for long-term economic empowerment. Experience from the project indicates that without structured access to credit, savings mechanisms, and collective market engagement, individual gains remain vulnerable to reversal. Future programmes should embed partnerships with financial institutions, business development services, and market actors to strengthen inclusion, support asset sustainability, and promote reinvestment and entrepreneurship among women beneficiaries.

Lesson learned 9. Defined roles, complementary expertise, and structured mechanisms for communication and engagement are key ingredients of effective coordination and external coherence.

259. Experience from the project confirms that effective collaboration can be achieved in partnerships which are characterised by clearly defined roles and complementary thematic expertise, as demonstrated in the partnership with UN Women. In contrast, limited coordination with UNDP and other actors reflected gaps in structured mechanisms and proactive engagement. This indicates that clarity of mandate, alignment of technical inputs, and consistent communication are critical factors influencing operational efficiency and external coherence. When roles are formalised, mandates are aligned, there is mutual interest to join forces, and systematic channels for communication and joint planning are established from the outset, partnerships are more likely to function effectively, generate operational synergies, and contribute to stronger and more coherent project outcomes.

3.3. Recommendations

260. The following operational recommendations in Table 9 are proposed to promote sustainability of the completed project and inform future such projects. The recommendations are derived from consultations with stakeholders, as well as evaluation's analysis of findings and conclusions. These were presented and discussed as well at the workshop with the CO on 17 July 2025. Recommendations are directed mainly to the WFP CO, but with contributions by WFP HQ and APARO, while partnership with key national agencies are also noted. Annex XIII provides a mapping of the findings, conclusions and recommendations.

Table 9. Recommendations

Recommendations	Recommendation grouping	Responsibility (one lead office/entity)	Other contributing entities	Priority: high/ medium	By when
Recommendation 1. Consolidate and scale tested intervention models through modular and standardized delivery packages. <i>(linked to Conclusions 1, 4 & 6)</i> WFP should: - develop and operationalize standardized community-level support packages that combine climate-resilient infrastructure (such as drinking water systems and irrigation), productive and storage assets (such as orchards, greenhouses combined with storage technologies), and targeted capacity strengthening (such as training in adaptive agriculture, asset use, market access, and climate services). These packages should be designed for modular replication and adjusted to local agricultural, environmental and socioeconomic conditions. - Provide regular follow-up coaching to help troubleshoot problems, offer seasonal guidance, and encourage continued use of delivered assets. Such practical support could be coordinated through local structures, such as <i>jamoat</i> committees, farmers' groups or informal groups (e.g., WhatsApp or similar groups created by the project). - base the community selection on transparent and criteria-based vulnerability assessments, and planning should be conducted jointly with local authorities and communities through participatory mechanisms aligned with district development plans. This approach would enhance local ownership, relevance and sustainability.	Strategic, Long Term	WFP CO	CEP	High	Q1 2026
Recommendation 2. Strengthen institutional anchoring and operational sustainability of climate information services through tailored technical assistance and decentralized service delivery models. <i>(linked to Conclusions 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6)</i>	Strategic, Mid Term	WFP	Hydromet, CEP	medium	Q1 2026

Recommendations	Recommendation grouping	Responsibility (one lead office/entity)	Other contributing entities	Priority: high/ medium	By when
Building on the results of the GCF project towards advancing Hydromet's capacity for climate data collection and dissemination, WFP should: • focus its future technical assistance on strengthening the institutional and operational sustainability of national climate data collection and dissemination systems, particularly Hydromet. This includes supporting the development of decentralized climate service delivery models through local government structures, enhancing standard operating procedures for data use and forecasting at subnational level, and embedding climate services into planning and budgeting cycles. • prioritize practical integration of climate data dissemination services into agricultural extension and disaster risk management functions. • WFP should also support Hydromet and partner institutions in mobilizing domestic and external resources to sustain and scale these services beyond project timelines.					
Recommendation 3. Continue to strengthen inclusion and women's empowerment by building practical, context-specific mechanisms for participation, follow-up, and access to resources. <i>(linked to Conclusions 1, 2, 4 & 7)</i> WFP should: • Partner with organisations of persons with disabilities (OPDs) and women's groups to map and profile women-headed households and persons with disabilities early in project design, including their specific access barriers (e.g. land ownership, mobility, caregiving responsibilities, digital access) to be able to tailor make support interventions to their needs and obstacles: • Ensure representation of women and persons with disabilities in planning and	Strategic, Medium Term	WFP	CEP, local authorities in target areas, Community based organisations	High	Q1 2026

Recommendations	Recommendation grouping	Responsibility (one lead office/entity)	Other contributing entities	Priority: high/ medium	By when
oversight structures, and support the creation of user groups or peer networks for women and for persons with disability when formal groups do not exist					
Recommendation 4. Embed proactive risk management, sustainability planning and institutional handover strategies from the outset. <i>(linked to Conclusions 3 & 4)</i> To enhance resilience to funding disruptions, implementation delays and contextual volatility, WFP should introduce robust risk forecasting and contingency planning during project design. This includes defining clear sustainability benchmarks and asset maintenance strategies, strengthening the institutional ownership of digital platforms and formalizing long-term roles for public institutions and local stakeholders through capacity assessments and handover plans.	Operational, Long Term	WFP	CEP, Hydromet	Medium	Q3 2025

Annexes

Annex 1. Summary Terms of Reference

Access [here](#).

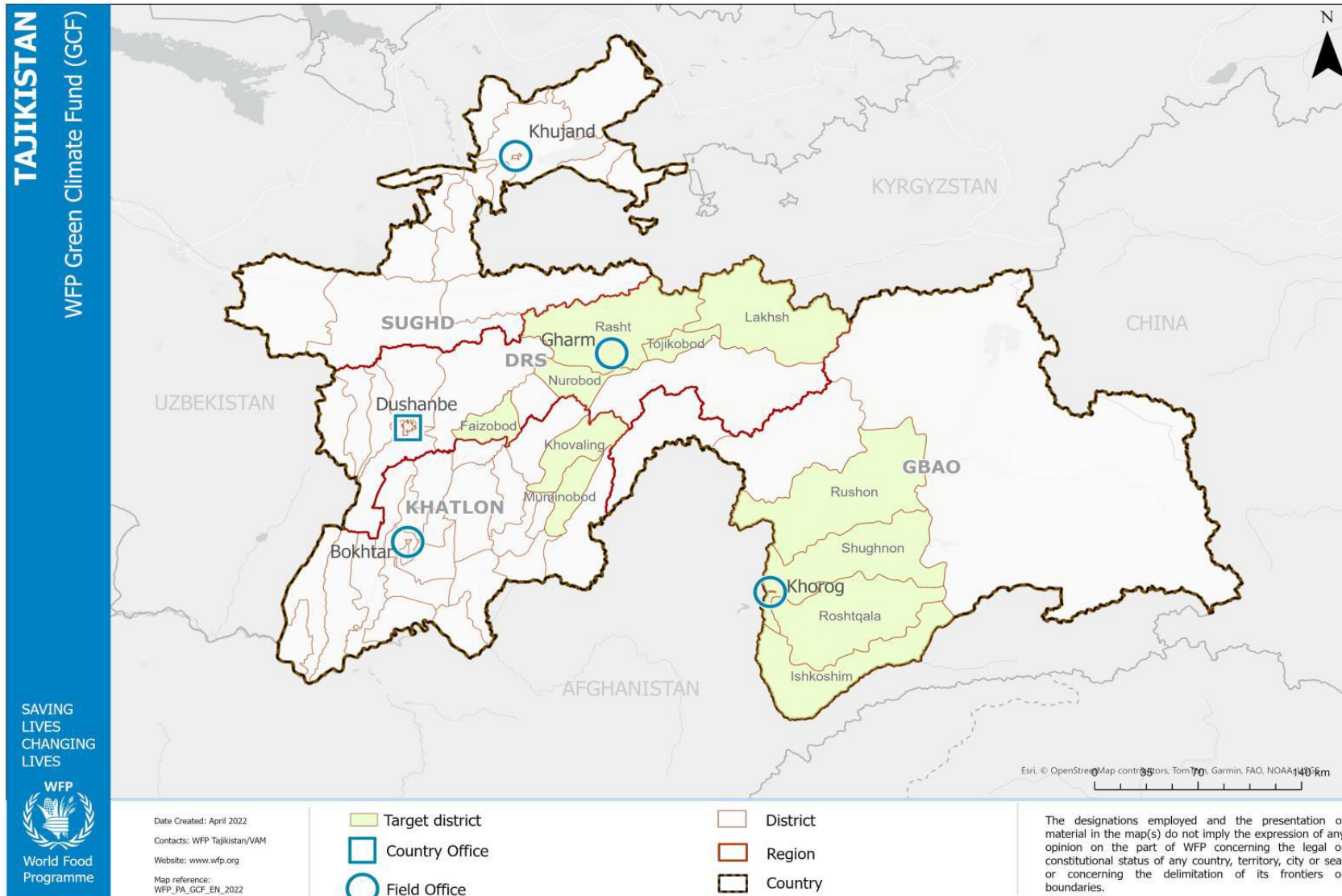
Annex 2. Timeline

Phase 1 - Inception			
	Team preparation	Team	beginning of January 2025
	Kick-off meeting	EM & Team	8 January 2025
	Inception mission - remote	ET	January 2025
	Submit draft inception report (IR)	TL	12 February 2025
	CO quality assurance and feedback	EM	19 February 2025
	DEQS quality assurance and feedback	EM	end of February 2025
	ERG review	EM	end of February 2025
	Submit revised IR	TL	11 March 2025
	IR clearance	EM	15 March 2025
Phase 2 – Data collection, including fieldwork			
	Preparation of the fieldwork	EM & Team	24 February – 31 March 2025
	Document review	Team	February – March 2025
	In country / remote data collection	Team	31 March – 28 April 2025
	Exit debrief (ppt) (remote)	TL	7 May 2025
Phase 3 - Reporting			
	Internal analysis working session	Team	May 2025
	Data analysis, drafting the report	Team	May 2025
Draft 0	Submit draft ER to CO (after the company's quality check)	TL	6 June 2025
	Presentation	TL	10 June 2025
	CO Feedback	EM	20 June 2025
Draft 1	Submit revised draft ER	TL	end of June 2025
	CO and ERG quality check	EM	mid July 2025
	DEQS quality assurance and feedback	EM	mid July 2025
	Submit revised draft ER based on WFP comments, with team's responses on the matrix of comments.	ET	end of July 2025
Final Draft	Final round of review by WFP	EM	beginning of August 2025
	GCF review	EM	beginning of August 2025
	Finalisation	TL	August 2025

Annex 3. Maps of Tajikistan



Source: UN, December 2020. [<https://www.un.org/geospatial/content/tajikistan>]



Source: Terms of Reference for the Final Evaluation, GCF-funded Project WFP Tajikistan Country Office, July 2024

Annex 4. Evaluation matrix

261. The purpose of the evaluation matrix is to provide a clear analytical framework that helps to reduce subjectivity in the evaluative judgement identifying for question and sub-questions: i) dimensions of analysis; ii) lines of inquiry and/or indicators as appropriate; iii) data sources; iv) data collection methods; and v) data analysis.

Sub-questions	Indicators /measures	Sources of data/information	Data collection methods	Data analysis methods/ triangulation	Validity/availability
Criterion 1 - Relevance					
1.1 To what extent was the project design and its interventions relevant to the needs of the target beneficiaries and the context, including national policies and priorities?					
1.1.1 To what extent and how did the project interventions address the needs (including climate-related) of the target beneficiary groups (including men and women, and people with disabilities?)	- Evidence of alignment of project interventions (e.g. climate-smart agriculture, market access, water management) with identified climate risks and livelihood needs of target communities. - Extent to which project interventions address the	- WFP CSP - Project documents and revisions. - Project result framework and ToC. - Project level reports and M&E data, mid-term review. - WFP commissioned studies and analytical reports, etc. - National statistics data on demographics, livelihoods and other development	- Document review - Semi-structured interviews - FGDs	- Qualitative iterative data analysis of the KIIs and FGDs with key stakeholders. - Thematic Analysis. - Content Analysis. - Comparative Analysis. - Triangulation between data sources, data collection techniques, and data types.	- Project documents and revisions are accessible, but detailed justification for beneficiary selection and adaptation to evolving climate risks may be incomplete. - National statistics on demographics, livelihoods, and climate vulnerabilities are available but may lack granularity at the community level and may not be recently updated.

Sub-questions	Indicators /measures	Sources of data/information	Data collection methods	Data analysis methods/ triangulation	Validity/availability
	specific needs of vulnerable groups, including smallholder farmers, women, and marginalized communities. - Evidence of participatory processes used to incorporate beneficiary priorities into project design and adaptation measures. - Adaptability of project activities to evolving climate risks and socioeconomic changes. - Consistency of project design with lessons learned from previous climate resilience	and SDG indicator data. - UNSDCF - Studies or reports produced by UN agencies,¹⁰⁵ development partners¹⁰⁶ or local, regional or international civil society organizations or think tanks.¹⁰⁷ - WFP teams at CO and FO levels. - Government officials at national, regional and local levels. - Cooperating partners. - Donors. - Humanitarian and Development partners. - Beneficiaries.			- M&E data was not consistently collected. There was no M&E plan developed and therefore not all data might be consistent and useful. - Outcome monitoring reports and mid-term review data provide valuable insights but may not fully capture shifting local needs or unintended effects. - Stakeholder interviews are feasible, though availability and depth of knowledge may vary due to staff turnover.

¹⁰⁵ e.g. Common Country analysis, UNCT Tajikistan results reports, Human Development Report etc.

¹⁰⁶ See relevant development partners in Annex III.

¹⁰⁷ These will be collected throughout the evaluation process.

Sub-questions	Indicators /measures	Sources of data/information	Data collection methods	Data analysis methods/ triangulation	Validity/availability
	initiatives in similar contexts.				
1.1.2 To what extent was the project in line with the national sector development priorities and plans of the national and subnational level in Tajikistan, including new policies adopted during the implementation of the project?	- Alignment of project objectives and activities with national and subnational climate policies, adaptation strategies, and sectoral development plans. - Degree of integration of project interventions in existing Hydromet programmes and frameworks.	- WFP CSP. - Project documents and revisions. - Project result framework and ToC. - Project level reports and M&E data, mid-term review. - WFP commissioned studies and analytical reports, etc. - UNSDCF - National statistics data on demographics, livelihoods and other development and SDG indicator data. - Studies or reports produced by UN agencies,¹⁰⁸ development partners¹⁰⁹ or local, regional or	- Document review - Semi-structured interviews - FGDs	- Qualitative iterative data analysis of the KIIs and FGDs with key stakeholders - Thematic Analysis - Content Analysis - Comparative Analysis - Triangulation between data sources, data collection techniques, and data types.	- Government strategy documents and sectoral development plans outline national priorities, though subnational-level integration may be less documented. - Secondary reports from UN agencies, development partners, and civil society organizations offer external validation but may not specifically track policy changes during project implementation. - Stakeholder interviews are feasible, though availability and depth of knowledge may vary due to staff turnover. - National statistics on

¹⁰⁸ e.g. Common Country analysis, UNCT Tajikistan results reports, Human Development report, etc.

¹⁰⁹ See relevant development partners in Annex III.

Sub-questions	Indicators /measures	Sources of data/information	Data collection methods	Data analysis methods/ triangulation	Validity/availability
		international civil society organizations or think tanks. ¹¹⁰ • WFP teams at CO and FO levels. • Government officials at national, regional and local levels. • Cooperating partners. • Donors. • Humanitarian and development partners. • Beneficiaries.			demographics, livelihoods, and climate vulnerabilities are available but may lack granularity at the community level and may not be recently updated.
1.2 To what extent were the planned inputs realistic, appropriate, and adequate to achieve the results?					
1.2.1 To what extent was the logical framework aligned with the overarching objectives (outputs, outcomes, and goal) of the project? Did the indicators meet the SMART criteria?	• The degree of elaboration of the project's theory with a precise definition of causal linkages within and across project components and their	• WFP CSP • Project documents and revisions. • Project result framework and ToC. • Project level reports and M&E data, mid-term review. • WFP commissioned studies and	• Document review • Semi-structured interviews • FGDs.	• Qualitative iterative data analysis of the KIIs and FGDs with key stakeholders. • Thematic Analysis. • Content Analysis. • Comparative Analysis. • Triangulation between data	• WFP strategic documents (country-level and corporate) allow for assessing alignment with broader organizational priorities, though real-time adaptation to emerging climate

¹¹⁰ These will be collected throughout the evaluation process

Sub-questions	Indicators /measures	Sources of data/information	Data collection methods	Data analysis methods/ triangulation	Validity/availability
	corresponding results (outputs and outcomes and their interrelation with assumptions and risks (and their mitigation measures), with explicit elaboration/building on WFP comparative advantage in the country. - Degree of alignment of the project with relevant WFP strategic approach on climate in Tajikistan. - Degree of alignment of the project with relevant WFP corporate strategies.	analytical reports, etc. - UNSDCF - WFP teams at CO and FO levels. - Government officials at national, regional and local levels. - Cooperating partners. - Donors. - Humanitarian and Development partners. - Beneficiaries.		sources, data collection techniques, and data types.	challenges may not be well-documented. - National statistics on demographics, livelihoods, and climate vulnerabilities are available but may lack granularity at the community level and may not be recently updated. - SDG indicator data is available but not recently updated. - M&E data was not consistently collected. There was no M&E plan developed and therefore not all data might be consistent and useful.
Criterion 2 - Coherence					
2.1 How coherent and strategically aligned was the project's intervention with the broader climate change adaptation and mitigation efforts of					

Sub-questions	Indicators /measures	Sources of data/information	Data collection methods	Data analysis methods/ triangulation	Validity/availability
multilateral entities, and how effectively did the project's partnerships leverage their capacities and commitments to achieve the desired outcomes?					
Subquestions	Indicators/measures	Data collection methods	Sources of data/information (primary or secondary)	Data analysis methods/ triangulation	Availability/validity
2.1.1 How internally coherent have the project interventions been? ¹¹¹	- Evidence of internal coherence, complementarity and mutual reinforcement of interventions across the two project components - Evidence of collaboration and alignment between different thematic components within the climate portfolio in the CO.	- WFP CSP - Project documents and revisions. - Project result framework and ToC. - Project level reports and M&E data, mid-term review. - WFP commissioned studies and analytical reports, etc. - UNSCDF - WFP teams at CO and FO level.	- Document review. - Semi-structured interviews.	- Qualitative iterative data analysis of the KIIs and FGDs with key stakeholders. - Thematic analysis - Content analysis - Comparative analysis. - Triangulation between data sources, data collection techniques, and data types.	- Project documents, M&E reports, and mid-term review provide structured insights on internal coherence but may lack explicit assessments of complementarity between project components. - Stakeholder interviews with WFP teams at CO and FO levels offer practical insights into collaboration and integration within the climate portfolio, though perspectives may vary by department. - Thematic and sectoral reports from WFP and

¹¹¹ Internal coherence for the purpose of this evaluation refers to the consistency and integration of the WFP project components and between the project and other internal climate - related interventions.

Sub-questions	Indicators /measures	Sources of data/information	Data collection methods	Data analysis methods/ triangulation	Validity/availability
					development partners provide contextual information on climate adaptation synergies but may not fully capture project-specific coherence. Comparative analysis of The WFP climate portfolio in Tajikistan can help assess alignment, though documentation on cross-thematic linkages may be limited.
2.2.2 Who were the partners of the project, and how strategic were they in terms of capacities and commitments?	- Extent to which the project interventions complemented or aligned with existing climate adaptation and mitigation programmes led by other multilateral entities, climate funds, and national policies in Tajikistan. - Degree of engagement and	- WFP CSP - Project documents and revisions. - Project level reports and M&E data, mid-term review. - WFP commissioned studies and analytical reports, etc. - National statistics data on demographics, livelihoods and other development and SDG indicator data.	- Document review. - Semi-structured interviews	- Qualitative iterative data analysis of the KIIs and FGDs with key stakeholders. - Thematic analysis - Content analysis - Comparative analysis - Triangulation between data sources, data collection techniques, and data types.	- Stakeholder interviews with WFP teams, government officials, and multilateral partners can offer insights into partner engagement and commitments, but perspectives may vary based on institutional memory. - While M&E documents exist, there was no M&E plan or partnership strategy requiring the ET to

Sub-questions	Indicators /measures	Sources of data/information	Data collection methods	Data analysis methods/ triangulation	Validity/availability
	collaboration with key partners (government agencies, multilateral organizations, NGOs, private sector) in project design and implementation. Evidence of coordination mechanisms in place to ensure complementarity and avoid overlap with other climate resilience initiatives in the country.	- UNSDCF - Studies or reports produced by UN agencies,¹¹² development partners¹¹³ or local, regional or international civil society organizations or think tanks.¹¹⁴ - WFP teams at CO and FO levels. - Government officials at national, regional and local levels. - Cooperating partners. - Donors. - Humanitarian and Development partners.			obtain this information through various documents. Project documents, M&E reports, and mid-term review provide structured information on partnerships and strategic alignment, though details on the effectiveness of coordination mechanisms may be limited.
Criterion 3 - Efficiency					
3.1 How efficiently were the project's outputs and results delivered in terms of time, cost, and resource utilization, and to what extent did financial					

¹¹² e.g. Common Country analysis, UNCT Tajikistan results reports, Human Development report etc.

¹¹³ See relevant development partners in Annex III.

¹¹⁴ These will be collected throughout the evaluation process.

Sub-questions	Indicators /measures	Sources of data/information	Data collection methods	Data analysis methods/ triangulation	Validity/availability
controls and management practices support effective decision making and the timely flow of funds? Was co-financing used strategically to advance the project's objectives?					
3.1.1 To what extent did the project deliver the outputs and results in a timely and cost-efficient/economically efficient manner?	- Degree of delivery of the planned outputs according to the agreed timeframe, including frequency of delays and their reasons. - Degree of introduction of: i) time-saving measures; ii) mitigation mechanisms to respond to identified bottlenecks; iii) mitigation mechanisms to respond to potential disruptions or challenges; iv) flexibility of WFP to adapt and enhance efficiency. - Comparison of administrative costs vs. direct	- WFP CSP, project documents and budget revisions. - ACRs, APPs, M&E reports, project reports, audits and reviews. - WFP teams at CO and FO levels. - Government officials at national, provincial and local levels. - Cooperating partners. - Development partners. - Beneficiaries.	- Document review - Semi-structured interviews	- Qualitative iterative data analysis of the KIIs and FGDs with key stakeholders - Quantitative analysis - Content Analysis - Comparative Analysis Triangulation between data sources, data collection techniques, and data types	- Stakeholder interviews with WFP teams, government officials, and cooperating partners offer insights into decision making and flexibility in fund allocation, though perspectives may vary based on roles. - Financial reporting exists but does not provide detailed information by activity or component given WFP internal financial management. - Audit report was not performed as the project will end by end of March 2025. Final evaluation has started earlier. - Budget revisions have not always been consistently tracked against the budget in the agreement. - Making an informed

Sub-questions	Indicators /measures	Sources of data/information	Data collection methods	Data analysis methods/ triangulation	Validity/availability
	implementation costs to evaluate cost-efficiency. - Evidence of cost-saving measures implemented without compromising project quality and impact. - Disbursement rates (expenditure vs. mobilized) and the ratio of outputs (e.g. number of beneficiaries reached, transfers disbursed) to total budget spent, analysed per cost category.				decision on cost-efficiency might be difficult to determine given constraints on availability of financial and budget information.
3.1.2 Is co-financing being used strategically to help the objectives of the project? How did the use of different financial streams (in-kind, parallel, leveraged, mobilized finance) work? To what extent have co-finance-related conditions and covenants (as listed in the FAA) been fulfilled? If co-	- Existence and functionality of internal financial controls, audits and risk mitigation measures. - Proportion of committed vs. actual co-financing	- WFP CSP, project documents and budget revisions. - ACRs, APPs, M&E reports, project reports, audits and reviews. - WFP teams at CO and FO levels. - Government officials at national,	- Document review. - Semi-structured interviews.	- Qualitative iterative data analysis of the KIIs and FGDs with key stakeholders. - Quantitative analysis. - Content analysis. - Comparative analysis. Triangulation between data sources, data	- Financial reporting exists but does not provide detailed information by activity or component given WFP internal financial management. - Information on co-financing exists, but limited in terms of

Sub-questions	Indicators /measures	Sources of data/information	Data collection methods	Data analysis methods/ triangulation	Validity/availability
finance is not materializing as planned, discuss the impact of that on the project and the results on the ground.	contributions, including in-kind and leveraged funds. - Degree to which co-financing has been strategically allocated to complement core project funding. - Impact of delayed or unmet co-financing commitments on project implementation and achievement of results.	provincial and local levels. - Cooperating partners. - Development partners.		collection techniques, and data types.	data availability for disbursements by year and by activity. - Audit report was not performed as the project will end by end of March 2025. Final evaluation has started earlier. - Budget revisions have not always been consistently tracked against the budget in in the agreement.
3.2. To what extent were the project's coordination, management, and governance mechanisms clearly defined and effective in supporting institutional strengthening, local ownership, and overall project efficiency?					
3.2.1 Were coordination, management and financing arrangements clearly defined and did they support institutional strengthening and local ownership?	Existence and utilization of contingency plans, risk assessments, and adaptive management strategies to address internal challenges (e.g. staffing, financial constraints,	- WFP CSP, project documents and budget revisions. - ACRs, APPs, M&E reports, project reports, audits and reviews. - WFP teams at CO and FO levels. - Government officials at national,	- Document review. - Semi-structured interviews.	- Qualitative iterative data analysis of the KIIs and FGDs with key stakeholders. - Quantitative analysis. - Content analysis. - Comparative analysis. - Triangulation between data sources, data	Project documents, formal agreements, and budget revisions provide structured insights into governance mechanisms and institutional roles but may lack details on informal coordination processes.

Sub-questions	Indicators /measures	Sources of data/information	Data collection methods	Data analysis methods/ triangulation	Validity/availability
	operational inefficiencies). - Existence and functionality of formalized agreements, roles, and responsibilities among implementing agencies, government institutions, and funding partners to support institutional strengthening and local ownership. - Timeliness and effectiveness of decision-making processes within project governance structures in facilitating adaptive management, resource allocation, and stakeholder engagement.	provincial and local levels. - Cooperating partners. - Development partners.		collection techniques, and data types.	- Stakeholder interviews with WFP teams, government officials, and cooperating partners offer insights into decision-making processes and local ownership, though perspectives may vary based on institutional interests. - Assessment of local partner engagement and capacity-building efforts is feasible, but data gaps may exist in tracking the sustainability of institutional strengthening efforts.

Sub-questions	Indicators /measures	Sources of data/information	Data collection methods	Data analysis methods/ triangulation	Validity/availability
	• Level of engagement and capacity-building of local partner institutions in project planning, implementation, and decision making. • Degree of collaboration and alignment between project stakeholders (government agencies, donors, implementing partners) to ensure streamlined implementation and avoid duplication of efforts.				
3.2.2 Does the intervention integrate M&E as a key element of project design and implementation to identify and respond to emerging or unintended problems or risks and/or capitalize on positive	Extent to which M&E findings were systematically used to adjust strategies, mitigate risks, and leverage positive unintended outcomes during	• WFP CSP, project documents and budget revisions. • ACRs, APPs, M&E reports, project reports, audits and reviews. • CFM data.	• Document review. • Semi-structured interviews.	• Qualitative iterative data analysis of the KIIs and FGDs with key stakeholders. • Quantitative analysis. • Content analysis. • Comparative analysis.	• No M&E Plan was developed limiting a full assessment. • Financial reporting exists but does not provide detailed information by activity

Sub-questions	Indicators /measures	Sources of data/information	Data collection methods	Data analysis methods/ triangulation	Validity/availability
unintended results?	implementation.	- WFP teams at CO and FO levels. - Government officials at national, provincial and local levels. - Cooperating partners. - Development partners.		Triangulation between data sources, data collection techniques, and data types.	or component given WFP internal financial management. - Audit report was not performed as the project will end by end of March 2025. Final evaluation has started earlier. - Budget revisions have not always been consistently tracked against the budget in in the agreement.
3.3 How effective were the communication strategies and mechanisms in ensuring regular, inclusive, and transparent communication with all stakeholders?					
3.3.1 How effectively did the communication strategies and mechanisms facilitate regular, inclusive, and transparent engagement with all stakeholders?	- Extent to which communication strategies ensured regular engagement with all key stakeholders, including marginalized groups, through accessible and transparent channels. - Functionality of feedback	- WFP CSP, project documents and budget revisions. - ACRs, APPs, M&E reports, project reports, audits and reviews. - CFM data. - WFP teams at CO and FO levels. - Government officials at national, provincial and local levels.	- Document review. - Semi-structured interviews.	- Qualitative iterative data analysis of the KIIs and FGDs with key stakeholders. - Quantitative analysis. - Content analysis. - Comparative analysis. - Triangulation between data sources, data collection techniques, and data types.	Project documents, communication strategies, and M&E reports provide insights into stakeholder engagement but may not comprehensively capture informal communication channels or responsiveness to feedback.

Sub-questions	Indicators /measures	Sources of data/information	Data collection methods	Data analysis methods/ triangulation	Validity/availability
	mechanisms in facilitating two-way communication, stakeholder responsiveness, and timely decision making to address challenges and improve project implementation.	- Cooperating partners. - Development partners. - Beneficiaries.			Stakeholder interviews with WFP teams, government officials, cooperating partners, and beneficiaries offer qualitative perspectives on the effectiveness of communication mechanisms, though responses may vary by stakeholder group.
Criterion 4 - Effectiveness					
4.1 To what extent were the project's objectives achieved, and how did the project perform against its planned outputs, outcomes, and indicators?					
4.1.1 To what extent did the project achieve its objectives, and how did its performance align with the planned outputs, outcomes, and indicators?	- Ratio of planned and actual beneficiaries (by gender, residency, disability, transfer and support modality). - Indicator achievement ratio across the results framework.	- WFP CSP, project documents and budget revisions. - Project result framework and ToC. - ACRs, VAM, COMET reports, mission and M&E reports, audits and reviews. - Indicator performance data. - CFM data.	- Document review. - Semi-structured interviews. - FGDs with beneficiaries.	- Qualitative iterative data analysis of the KIIs and FGDs with key stakeholders. - Quantitative analysis. - Thematic analysis. - Content Analysis. - Comparative analysis. - Narrative analysis. - Contribution analysis.	- Project documents, M&E reports, and financial records provide quantitative data on beneficiary reach and output delivery, but variations in reporting formats may affect consistency. - Inconsistent monitoring and data availability on

Sub-questions	Indicators /measures	Sources of data/information	Data collection methods	Data analysis methods/ triangulation	Validity/availability
		• UNSDCF and annual UN country reports. • IPC datasets. • WFP teams at CO and FO levels. • Government officials at national, provincial and local levels. • Cooperating partners. • Development partners. • Beneficiaries.		Triangulation between data sources, data collection techniques, and data types.	beneficiary sex and age. • Annual performance reports are available until end of 2014 but need to be triangulated and validated. • Outcome monitoring was performed in different regions, with different FGD and beneficiaries not allowing for a comparison. Age and sex of beneficiaries was not always consistently collected. • Stakeholder interviews offer qualitative insights into project implementation, though perspectives on effectiveness may differ. • Triangulation of project reports, beneficiary FGDs, and quantitative output data is feasible but may require further validation of

Sub-questions	Indicators /measures	Sources of data/information	Data collection methods	Data analysis methods/ triangulation	Validity/availability
					performance against planned indicators.
4.1.2 How much progress has been made toward achieving the desired outcomes in the main areas of intervention outlined in the Theory of Change (ToC)?	- Evidence of delivery of expected outputs as defined in the reconstructed ToC.¹¹⁵ - Evidence of the expected WFP contribution to outcomes¹¹⁶ as defined in the reconstructed ToC. - Evidence of WFP contribution to SDGs 2 and 17 as well as also SDGs 1, 3, 4, 5 & 13.	- WFP CSP, project documents and budget revisions. - Project result framework and ToC - ACRs, VAM, COMET reports, mission and M&E reports, audits and reviews. - CFM data. - UNSDCF and annual UN country reports. - WFP teams at CO and FO levels. - Government officials at national, provincial and local levels. - Cooperating partners. - Development partners. - Beneficiaries.	- Document review. - Semi-structured interviews. - FGDs with beneficiaries.	- Qualitative iterative data analysis of the KIIs and FGDs with key stakeholders. - Quantitative analysis. - Thematic analysis. - Content analysis. - Comparative analysis. - Narrative analysis. - Contribution analysis. Triangulation between data sources, data collection techniques, and data types.	- Project reports and reconstructed ToC analysis will provide some insights on expected outcomes but may lack clarity on unintended results. - Due to the absence of an M&E Plan, outcome monitoring may have limitation. - Contribution analysis of WFP impact on SDGs 2, 17 and related goals might be difficult as SDG data is not consistently updated. Attribution of specific outcomes to the project may be challenging.

¹¹⁵ For the purpose of this assessment, reconstructed ToC will be used as framework

¹¹⁶ Ibid

Sub-questions	Indicators /measures	Sources of data/information	Data collection methods	Data analysis methods/ triangulation	Validity/availability
4.2. To what extent did the project adapt to external changes, including risks and assumptions, to continue delivering benefits to the target groups?					
4.2.1 To what extent and how was the project adapted or was able to adapt to changing external conditions (risks and assumptions) to ensure benefits for the target groups?	• Examples of external factors facilitating delivery of results and the expected strategic shift. • Extent to which the project adapted implementation approaches to align with evolving national policies, economic shifts, climate risks, or geopolitical developments.	• WFP CSP, project documents and budget revisions. • Project result framework and ToC. • ACRs, VAM, COMET reports, mission and M&E reports, audits and reviews. • CFM data. • UNSDCF and annual UN country reports. • WFP teams at CO and FO levels. • IPC data (if available for Tajikistan). • Government officials at national, provincial and local levels. • Cooperating partners. • Development partners. • Beneficiaries.	• Document review. • Semi-structured interviews. • FGDs with beneficiaries.	• Qualitative iterative data analysis of the KIIs and FGDs with key stakeholders. • Quantitative analysis. • Thematic analysis. • Content analysis. • Comparative analysis. • Narrative analysis. • Contribution analysis. • Triangulation between data sources, data collection techniques, and data types.	• Project reports and reconstructed ToC analysis will provide some insights on expected outcomes but may lack clarity on unintended results and adapted implementation. • Due to the absence of an M&E plan, outcome monitoring may pose limitation in terms of understanding how external factors facilitated delivery of results.
4.3. How effectively were the feedback and grievance mechanisms, as well as reporting processes, implemented to enhance project management, accountability, and learning?					

Sub-questions	Indicators /measures	Sources of data/information	Data collection methods	Data analysis methods/ triangulation	Validity/availability
4.3.1 Is a grievance/feedback mechanism in place? If so, assess its effectiveness in case resolution and where necessary protection of the aggrieved.	- Existence and accessibility of grievance and feedback mechanisms for project stakeholders, including marginalized groups, to report concerns, incidents, and compliments. - Evidence and examples of resolved grievances and feedback cases within the stipulated timeframe, with documented follow-up actions contributing to project accountability, adaptive management, and learning.	- WFP CSP, project documents and budget revisions. - ACRs, VAM, COMET reports, mission and M&E reports, audits and reviews. - CFM data. - WFP teams at CO and FO levels. - Government officials at national, provincial and local levels. - Cooperating partners. - Development partners. - Beneficiaries.	- Document review. - Semi-structured interviews. - FGDs with beneficiaries.	- Qualitative iterative data analysis of the KIIs and FGDs with key stakeholders. - Quantitative analysis. - Thematic analysis. - Content analysis. - Comparative analysis. - Narrative analysis. - Contribution analysis. - Triangulation between data sources, data collection techniques, and data types.	Project documentation and M&E reports outline grievance mechanisms, but data on actual case resolutions and response times and follow-up may be incomplete.
Criterion 5 - Gender equity					
5.1. How effectively were gender considerations integrated and monitored throughout the project, ensuring that all target groups, including women and marginalized communities, benefited equitably from project outputs and interventions?					

Sub-questions	Indicators /measures	Sources of data/information	Data collection methods	Data analysis methods/ triangulation	Validity/availability
5.1.1 To what extent has progress been made toward gender equality and women's empowerment?	- Extent to which gender considerations were embedded in project design, implementation, and M&E frameworks, including the use of gender-disaggregated data and targeted actions to ensure equitable benefits for women and marginalized communities. - Examples of how the GEWE analysis recommendations have led to adjustments in project activities for enhanced gender mainstreaming. - Examples of gender transformative programming and results. - Extent to which the project	- WFP CSP, project documents and budget revisions. - Budget data. - Project result framework and ToC. - ACRs, VAM, COMET reports, mission and M&E reports, audits and reviews. - CFM data. - UNSDCF and annual UN country reports. - WFP teams at CO and FO levels. - Government officials at national, provincial and local levels. - Cooperating partners. - Development partners. - Beneficiaries.	- Document review - Semi-structured interviews - FGDs with beneficiaries	- Qualitative iterative data analysis of the KIIs and FGDs with key stakeholders. - Quantitative analysis. - Thematic analysis. - Content analysis. - Comparative analysis. - Narrative analysis. - Contribution analysis. Triangulation between data sources, data collection techniques, and data types.	- Project documents, M&E reports, and gender analyses provide some insights into gender integration, but gaps exist in tracking gender-disaggregated impacts and transformative programming outcomes due to an absence of an M&E plan and high staff turnover which resulted in loss of institutional memory. - Stakeholder interviews with WFP teams, government officials, and beneficiaries can validate how gender considerations influenced project adjustments, though perspectives on effectiveness may vary.

Sub-questions	Indicators /measures	Sources of data/information	Data collection methods	Data analysis methods/ triangulation	Validity/availability
	safeguarded and promoted beneficiaries' rights, including access to inclusive participation, protection from discrimination, and empowerment in decision making related to climate adaptation and resilience-building. Barriers and enablers affecting rights-based access to project benefits, particularly for women, people with disabilities, and other vulnerable groups.				
Criterion 6 - Sustainability					
6.1 To what extent is it likely that the benefits of the project will continue after WFP work ceases?					

Sub-questions	Indicators /measures	Sources of data/information	Data collection methods	Data analysis methods/ triangulation	Validity/availability
6.1.1 To what extent are the benefits of the project likely to be sustained after the conclusion of WFP involvement?	- Extent to which project interventions, systems, or services are institutionalized within national or local structures, ensuring continued benefits beyond WFP involvement. - Degree to which project delivery mechanisms contributed to strengthening local capacities, stakeholder ownership, and policy integration, enabling sustained implementation and scale-up.	- WFP CSP, project documents and budget revisions. - Project result framework and ToC. - ACRs, VAM, COMET reports, mission and M&E reports, audits and reviews. - UNSDCF and annual UN country reports. - WFP teams at CO and FO levels. - Government officials at national, provincial and local levels. - Cooperating partners. - Development partners. - Beneficiaries.	- Document review. - Semi-structured interviews. - FGDs with beneficiaries	- Qualitative iterative data analysis of the KIIs and FGDs with key stakeholders. - Quantitative analysis - Thematic analysis. - Content analysis. - Comparative analysis. - Narrative analysis. - Contribution analysis. Triangulation between data sources, data collection techniques, and data types.	- Project documents, government policies, and institutional frameworks provide insights into the extent of integration into national/local systems, but gaps may exist in tracking post-project commitments given the changing nature of the aid architecture. - Stakeholder interviews with WFP teams, government officials, and cooperating partners can validate sustainability plans, though perspectives on long-term ownership may vary.
Criterion 7 - Impact					
7.1. To what extent has the project contributed to sustainable development outcomes, including low-emission pathways, climate resilience, and social impact?					
7.1.1 To what extent has the project potentially contributed to achieving	Extent to which project interventions	WFP CSP, project documents and budget revisions.	- Document review. - Semi-structured interviews.	Qualitative iterative data analysis of the	Outcome monitoring reports are limited given that they targeted different

Sub-questions	Indicators /measures	Sources of data/information	Data collection methods	Data analysis methods/ triangulation	Validity/availability
stronger and more coherent integration of shift to low-emission sustainable development pathways and/or increased climate-resilient sustainable development (GCF RMF/PMF Paradigm Shift objectives)?	have led to sustained improvements in climate adaptation, and resilience-building as evidenced by policy integration, adoption of climate-smart practices, or long-term behavioural changes. Demonstrated improvements in food security, gender equality, and socioeconomic wellbeing of marginalized communities, with evidence of continued access to project-supported resources, services, or capacity-building initiatives.	- Project result framework and ToC. - ACRs, VAM, COMET reports, mission and M&E reports, audits and reviews. - UNSDCF and annual UN country reports. - WFP teams at CO and FO levels. - Government officials at national, provincial and local levels. - Updated IPC data if available for Tajikistan. - Cooperating partners. - Development partners. - Beneficiaries.	FGDs with beneficiaries.	KIIs and FGDs with key stakeholders. - Quantitative analysis. - Thematic analysis. - Content analysis. - Comparative analysis. - Narrative analysis. - Contribution analysis. Triangulation between data sources, data collection techniques, and data types	regions and beneficiaries and applied a different methodology and might not provide the extent to which project interventions have led to sustained improvements. Attribution of this initiative alone may be challenging.
Criterion 8 - Country ownership					
8.1 Were the modes of delivery of the outputs appropriate to build essential/necessary capacities, promote national ownership and ensure the					

Sub-questions	Indicators /measures	Sources of data/information	Data collection methods	Data analysis methods/ triangulation	Validity/availability
sustainability of the result achieved?					
8.1.1 What is the level of country ownership of the project process and results, and what are the implications for their sustainability and continuation?	Level of national and local government engagement, commitment, and integration of project results into national policies and programmes, ensuring continued implementation and scaling beyond project completion.	- WFP CSP, project documents and budget revisions. - ACRs, VAM, COMET reports, mission and M&E reports, audits and reviews. - WFP teams at CO and FO levels. - Government officials at national, provincial and local levels. - Cooperating partners. - Development partners. - Beneficiaries.	- Document review. - Semi-structured interviews. - FGDs with beneficiaries.	- Qualitative iterative data analysis of the KIIs and FGDs with key stakeholders. - Quantitative analysis. - Thematic analysis. - Content analysis. - Comparative analysis. - Narrative analysis. - Contribution analysis. Triangulation between data sources, data collection techniques, and data types.	- National policy integration and government commitment can be assessed through project documents and budget allocations, but institutional capacity for sustained implementation may vary. - Stakeholder interviews with national and local government representatives provide qualitative insights into ownership, though political and institutional priorities may influence responses.
Criterion 9 - Innovativeness in result areas					
9.1 To what extent has the project fostered innovative solutions, thought leadership, and the unlocking of additional climate finance for climate change adaptation and mitigation, and how can these roles be enhanced moving forward?					
9.1.1 What role has the project played in the provision of "thought	Extent to which the project has introduced, tested, or scaled	WFP CSP, project documents and budget revisions.	- Document review. - Semi-structured interviews.	Qualitative iterative data analysis of the KIIs and FGDs with key stakeholders.	Lessons learned and replicability may be limited as at the time

Sub-questions	Indicators /measures	Sources of data/information	Data collection methods	Data analysis methods/ triangulation	Validity/availability
leadership," "innovation," or "unlocked additional climate finance" for climate change adaptation/mitigation in the project and country context?	- up innovative approaches for climate adaptation and mitigation, with documented examples of successful application. - Amount and sources of additional climate finance leveraged as a result of project interventions, including co-financing, private sector investment, or policy shifts facilitating sustained funding for climate action.	- Project result framework and ToC. - ACRs, VAM, COMET reports, mission and M&E reports, audits and reviews. - WFP teams at CO and FO levels. - Government officials at national, provincial and local levels. - Cooperating partners. - Development partners. - Beneficiaries.	FGDs with beneficiaries.	- Quantitative analysis. - Thematic analysis. - Content analysis. - Comparative analysis. - Narrative analysis. - Contribution analysis. Triangulation between data sources, data collection techniques, and data types.	of the evaluation the lessons learnt workshop and documentation were not shared, limiting the ability to validate the availability of such data. Absence of an M&E plan may suggest that lessons learnt and replicability were not consistently documented. Stakeholder interviews with WFP teams, government officials, and donors can validate project contributions to climate finance mobilization, though attribution challenges may exist.
Criterion 10 - Replication					
10.1 Does the project have the potential to expand its scale and impact without increasing the total costs of implementation?					
10.1.1 To what extent is the project feasible and adaptable for replication in	Extent to which project interventions, methodologies, or	WFP CSP, project documents and budget revisions.	- Document review. - Semi-structured interviews.	Qualitative iterative data analysis of the KIIs and FGDs with key stakeholders.	Replicability may be limited as at the time of the evaluation the

Sub-questions	Indicators /measures	Sources of data/information	Data collection methods	Data analysis methods/ triangulation	Validity/availability
other contexts?	best practices can be effectively adapted and implemented in different geographic, socioeconomic, or institutional contexts based on documented lessons learned and stakeholder feedback.	- ACRs, VAM, COMET reports, mission and M&E reports, audits and reviews. - WFP teams at CO and FO levels. - Government officials at national, provincial and local levels. - Cooperating partners. - Development partners. - Beneficiaries.	FGDs with beneficiaries.	- Quantitative analysis. - Thematic analysis. - Content analysis. - Comparative analysis. - Narrative analysis. - Contribution analysis. Triangulation between data sources, data collection techniques, and data types.	documentation was not shared, limiting the ability to validate the availability of such data. Absence of an M&E and sustainability plan may suggest that replicability was not consistently documented. Triangulation of project methodologies, stakeholder feedback, and comparative analysis with similar initiatives may require additional verification of institutional and financial sustainability in new contexts.
Criterion 11 - Scalability					
11.1 Does the programme have the potential for expanding its scale and impact without increasing the total costs of implementation?					
11.1.1 To what extent is the project feasible and adaptable for scale-up?	Degree to which the project model allows for expansion in scale through leveraging of additional partnerships and funding streams.	- WFP CSP, project documents and budget revisions. - ACRs, VAM, COMET reports, mission and M&E reports, audits and reviews. - WFP teams at CO and FO levels.	- Document review. - Semi-structured interviews. - FGDs with beneficiaries.	- Qualitative iterative data analysis of the KIIs and FGDs with key stakeholders. - Quantitative analysis. - Thematic analysis. - Content analysis. - Comparative analysis.	Scalability may be limited as at the time of the evaluation the documentation was not shared limiting the ability to validate the availability of such data.

Sub-questions	Indicators /measures	Sources of data/information	Data collection methods	Data analysis methods/ triangulation	Validity/availability
		- Government officials at national, provincial and local levels. - Cooperating partners. - Development partners. - Beneficiaries.		- Narrative analysis. - Contribution analysis. Triangulation between data sources, data collection techniques, and data types	Absence of an M&E and sustainability plan may suggest that scalability was not consistently documented. Triangulation of project methodologies, stakeholder feedback, and comparative analysis with similar initiatives may require additional verification of institutional and financial sustainability in new contexts.
Criterion 12 - Unexpected results, both positive and negative					
12.1 To what degree has the project generated significant positive or negative, unintended or unanticipated results?					
12.1.1 To what extent has the project resulted in significant unintended or unanticipated positive or negative effects?	Extent to which the project has led to significant positive or negative unintended outcomes beyond initially planned results.	- WFP CSP, project documents and budget revisions. - Project result framework and ToC. - ACRs, VAM, COMET reports, mission	- Document review. - Semi-structured interviews. - FGDs with beneficiaries.	- Qualitative iterative data analysis of the KIIs and FGDs with key stakeholders. - Quantitative analysis.	The absence of an M&E plan, endline survey and limited outcome monitoring might provide challenges to uncover the extent to which the project has led to significant positive or negative

Sub-questions	Indicators /measures	Sources of data/information	Data collection methods	Data analysis methods/ triangulation	Validity/availability
	Effectiveness of project mechanisms in identifying, analysing, and integrating unintended results into adaptive management and decision making, ensuring lessons learned inform future programming.	and M&E reports, audits and reviews. - WFP teams at CO and FO levels. - Government officials at national, provincial and local levels. - Cooperating partners. - Development partners. - Beneficiaries.		- Thematic analysis. - Content analysis. - Comparative analysis. - Narrative analysis. - Contribution analysis. Triangulation between data sources, data collection techniques, and data types	unintended outcomes beyond initially planned results. Progress and performance reports and final reports should contain feedback on what is working and what is not, sometimes flagging unintended impacts.

Annex 5. Data collection tools

Overview

This section lays out the principles that will guide the Evaluation Team in the selection of key informant (KI) participants and conduct of the KIs. The Evaluation Team will conduct KIs with participants selected for their familiarity with the project activities and their results. Additional criteria for selection include:

Accessibility: can the Evaluation Team access the stakeholders?

Gender: Does the mix of stakeholders represent gender diversity?¹¹⁷

Diversity: Does the mix of stakeholders represent the diversity of national, subnational and local level stakeholders?¹¹⁸

The guides are designed to be “semi-structured” interview guides; they provide some guidance to a conversation, but with the flexibility for modification according to specific stakeholder expertise. The facilitators may engage in probes as themes emerge. Facilitators should have the freedom to follow emergent themes pertinent to the overall evaluation matrix and the evaluation objectives. Importantly, not all questions will be considered relevant for all stakeholder groups. Thus, the interviewer should re-phrase the questions as they see fit to make them appropriate for their audiences.

Each section covers a different segment of the evaluation ToR and matrix. The facilitator should only cover a segment if the respondent has sufficient experience or insights to address the segment. Some items are only for internal WFP stakeholders while others may be asked of all stakeholders.

Not all questions can be asked in all interviews. The interviewer should foresee about one hour on average for each KI interview. Therefore, it is important to prioritize which sections are the most information-rich with the participating stakeholder(s). Triangulation of themes and observations from multiple stakeholders ensures the mitigation of a single interview not collecting all the possible key insights and observations.

The interviewer should introduce themselves and clarify the purpose of the evaluation, as well as the confidentiality of the interview (i.e. when quoting KIs, attribution will be made to categories of stakeholders, not individuals or organizations).

General guidelines for KIs for interviewers

Establish rapport. Begin with an explanation of the purpose of the interview, the intended uses of the information and assurances of confidentiality (see introduction below). Except when interviewing technical experts, questioners should avoid jargon.

Phrase questions carefully to elicit detailed information. Avoid questions that can be answered by a simple yes or no. For example, questions such as “Please tell me about the project activities?” are better than “Do you know about the project activities?”

Use probing techniques. Encourage informants to detail the basis for their conclusions and recommendations. For example, an informant’s comment, such as “The project/WFP has really changed things around here,” can be probed for more details, such as “What changes have you noticed?” “Who seems to have benefited most?” “Can you give me some specific examples?”

¹¹⁷ If it does not, then additional stakeholders need to be added.

¹¹⁸ *ibid.*

Maintain a neutral attitude. Interviewers should be sympathetic listeners and avoid giving the impression of having strong views on the subject under discussion. Neutrality is essential because some informants, trying to be polite, will say what they think the interviewer wants to hear.

Minimize translation difficulties. Sometimes it is necessary to use a translator, which can change the dynamics and add difficulties. For example, differences in status between the translator and informant may inhibit the conversation. Often information is lost during translation. Difficulties can be minimized by using translators who are not known to the informants, briefing translators on the purposes of the study to reduce misunderstandings, and having translators repeat the informant's comments verbatim.

Collect additional documentation. During the interview, the key informant may refer to documentation. Ask for copies preferably in digital form, but if unavailable then hard copy. This can help fill in any gaps and add to the existing documentation. If a formal request is required for additional documentation, the office can contact the WFP focal point for the evaluation at WFP Country Office via email (firdavs.nazaraliev@wfp.org)

Thank the key informant. Thank the key informant for the time given to the interview and the information provided. Suggest that if acceptable, you may need to contact them again to confirm statements or to seek more information.

Ethical and safety considerations

Conducting work of this nature requires high ethical standards to ensure that expectations are not raised, confidentiality is maintained, and respondents are treated with dignity and respect, and are never forced to participate or encouraged to speak about subjects that may be traumatizing or may put them at risk. This entails:

Dignity & Respect: Key informants understand the purpose of the exercise, the types and intended use of the data that are going to be collected. They are reassured that there will be no repercussions should they choose not to participate.

Confidentiality: Key informants are aware that any reference to their interview in resulting reports will be generic to make it impossible to trace information to its individual source. However, the information provided during the interview will be recorded and used for the purpose of the evaluation.

Safety: Location and timing are crucial. Discussion is held in a private, non-threatening, and easily accessible and safe place, and at a time that is appropriate to the key informant's needs and schedule.

Introduction (Beginning of Interview)

Who are we: We are an evaluation team of three persons commissioned by WFP Country Office to carry out an independent evaluation of WFP Project "Building climate resilience of vulnerable and food-insecure communities through capacity strengthening and livelihood diversification in mountainous regions of Tajikistan from 2020 to 2025".

The evaluation: The purpose of this evaluation is to assess the progress, results, lessons learned, to generate recommendations for future WFP support to climate change and resilience. We are asking you to participate in the evaluation because you are in a position to contribute a relevant and valuable perspective on the functioning of this programme so far. If you decide to participate, the interview may last an hour.

Participation is voluntary: Your participation in the interview is voluntary. You can withdraw from the interview after it has begun, for any reason, with no penalty.

Risks and benefits: This evaluation is designed to help improve future WFP climate change and resilience programming in by learning from the perspectives of everyone involved. You may not benefit personally from being in this evaluation. You should report any problems to firdavs.nazaraliyev@wfp.org.

Confidentiality: The Evaluation Team will use findings from this and the other meetings. We will collect and summarize the views and opinions of participants without connecting them to specific individuals and without using names at any time. Any report of this research will be presented in a way that makes it as difficult as possible for anyone to determine the identity of individuals participating in the evaluation.

If you have any questions, now or at any time in the future, you may call _____

Are you willing to be part of this interview? (Verbal response only requested)

Notes for interviewers:

- Use open-ended questions to encourage detailed responses.
- Probe for specific examples where necessary.
- Take notes on any emerging themes or unexpected findings.
- Ensure a diverse representation of perspectives across interviewees.

Interview guide for WFP team

<i>Relevance and coherence</i>
<i>1.1 Alignment with national policies and beneficiary needs</i>
<i>Q1: How well do you think the project aligns with national and subnational climate policies, adaptation strategies, and sectoral development plans?</i>
<i>Probe: Were there specific government policies that guided the design of this project? What is missing?</i>
<i>Q2: How were beneficiary needs assessed during project design, particularly for vulnerable groups such as smallholder farmers, women, and persons with disabilities?</i>
<i>Probe: Were participatory approaches used to incorporate beneficiary priorities?</i>
<i>Q3: Have the project interventions remained relevant given evolving climate risks and socioeconomic changes?</i>
<i>Probe: Were any adaptations made to the project design to maintain its relevance?</i>
<i>1.2 Project design and strategic alignment</i>
<i>Q4: Was the Theory of Change (ToC) clear in defining how project interventions would lead to expected outcomes?</i>
<i>Probe: Were the causal linkages well-articulated? What were the key changes that were needed to enhance the intervention logic clarity?</i>
<i>Q5: How did the project leverage WFP's comparative advantage in Tajikistan?</i>
<i>Q6: To what extent did project interventions complement existing and new climate adaptation and mitigation efforts of WFP CO and RBC?</i>
<i>Q7: To what extent did project interventions complement existing climate adaptation and mitigation efforts by other UN or multilateral organizations and national institutions?</i>
<i>2. Efficiency</i>
<i>2.1 Timeliness and budget execution</i>
<i>Q8: Were project activities implemented within the planned timeline? If not, what were the major delays and their causes?</i>
<i>Probe: How did the team mitigate these delays?</i>
<i>Q9: Were financial resources allocated efficiently to deliver the planned outputs?</i>

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<i>Probe: Was co-financing used strategically to enhance project outcomes?</i>
2.2 Coordination and management
<i>Q10: How effective were the coordination mechanisms between WFP, government entities, and implementing partners?</i>
<i>Probe: Were there challenges in governance and decision-making structures? How were they overcome?</i>
<i>Q11: How were monitoring and evaluation (M&E) findings used to adjust strategies and improve implementation?</i>
3. Effectiveness
3.1 Achievement of intended results
<i>Q12: To what extent has the project achieved its intended outputs and outcomes?</i>
<i>Probe: Are there specific indicators that have shown significant progress?</i>
<i>Q13: How has the project contributed to increased resilience among targeted communities?</i>
<i>Probe: Can you provide examples of changes in agricultural practices, market access, or water management?</i>
3.2 Adaptation to external changes
<i>Q14: How well did the project adapt to external risks such as climate shocks, policy changes, or socioeconomic disruptions?</i>
3.3 Stakeholder engagement and accountability
<i>Q15: How were the mechanisms for beneficiaries to provide feedback or report grievances used?</i>
<i>Probe: Were these mechanisms accessible to marginalized groups? What were good practices? What were challenges? What is the key lesson learned?</i>
4. Gender equality and inclusion
<i>Q16: How were gender considerations integrated into project design and implementation?</i>
<i>Probe: What specific actions were taken to ensure equitable benefits for women and marginalized communities?</i>
<i>Q17: What have been observable changes in gender roles, decision making, or economic empowerment as a result of the project?</i>
<i>Probe: What could have been done better?</i>
5. Sustainability
<i>Q18: What measures have been put in place to ensure the sustainability of project benefits beyond WFP's involvement?</i>
<i>Probe: Have project activities been institutionalized within national structures?</i>
<i>Q19: How engaged are local governments and institutions in continuing project initiatives?</i>
6. Impact
<i>Q20: How has the project contributed to long-term improvements in food security, climate resilience, and community wellbeing?</i>
<i>Probe: Are there early indications of sustained benefits?</i>
<i>Q21: What have been unintended positive or negative outcomes from the project?</i>
7. Innovation and scalability
<i>Q22: What innovative approaches in climate adaptation and resilience-building has the project introduced?</i>
<i>Probe: Have any of these been scaled up or replicated?</i>
<i>Q23: What lessons can be drawn from this project for future climate adaptation programming?</i>
Closing remarks
<i>Do you have any additional insights or recommendations for improving future climate resilience projects?</i>

Interview guide for Government officials

1. Relevance and coherence
1.1 Alignment with national policies and strategies
<i>Q1: How well does the project align with national and subnational climate policies, adaptation strategies, and development plans?</i>
<i>Probe: Were government priorities and strategies considered during project design?</i>
<i>Q2: How did the project support the strengthening government-led initiatives?</i>

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Q3: How has the project adapted to evolving climate policies and socioeconomic conditions? Probe: Were any adjustments made to maintain alignment with national priorities?
1.2 Government involvement and ownership
Q4: What role did government agencies play in the design and implementation of the project? Probe: Were national and local government institutions actively engaged in decision making?
Q5: How effectively did the project build government capacity for climate resilience and adaptation? Probe: Can you provide examples of skills or knowledge gained through project participation?
2. Efficiency
2.1 Coordination and implementation
Q6: How well was coordination between government agencies, WFP, and other partners managed? Probe: Were there challenges in governance and decision-making structures?
Q7: Were the resources provided through the project efficiently utilized at the government level? Probe: Were there any funding or logistical challenges?
2.2 Timeliness and budget execution
Q8: Were project activities implemented within the expected timeline? Probe: Were there any delays, and if so, how were they addressed?
Q9: How effectively were financial resources allocated and managed by the government in relation to the project? Probe: Did the government contribute co-financing or in-kind resources?
3. Effectiveness
3.1 Institutional strengthening and capacity building
Q10: What specific capacities within government institutions were strengthened through this project? Probe: How have these new capacities been institutionalized within government structures?
Q11: How has the project supported the integration of climate adaptation measures into local and national development plans? Probe: Can you provide examples of policy or planning changes influenced by the project?
3.2 Adaptation to external challenges
Q12: How well did the project adapt to external risks such as climate shocks, policy shifts, or socioeconomic challenges? Probe: What mitigation measures were most effective?
3.3 Improvement of beneficiaries' practices
Q13: To what extent has the project contributed to the improvement of beneficiaries' climate resilience practices? Probe: Can you provide specific examples of changes in agricultural techniques, water management, or market access?
Q14: How has the project contributed to sustained improvements in beneficiaries' livelihoods and adaptive capacities?
4. Sustainability
Q15: What steps have been taken to ensure the sustainability of project benefits after its completion? Probe: Have government institutions committed to continuing or scaling up project activities?
Q16: How likely is it that the technical skills and knowledge gained from the project will continue to be used by government staff in the long term? Probe: Are there institutional mechanisms in place to sustain these efforts?
5. Impact
Q17: How has the project contributed to long-term improvements in food security, climate resilience, and governance for climate adaptation? Probe: Are there early indications of sustained benefits?
Q18: Have there been any unintended positive or negative outcomes from the project? Probe: Were there unexpected policy changes, economic shifts, or new opportunities that arose from the project?
6. Innovation and replicability

Q19: Has the project introduced any innovative approaches for climate adaptation and resilience-building within government planning? Probe: Have any of these approaches been scaled up or replicated in other regions?
Q20: What lessons from this project could inform future government- or WFP-led climate adaptation efforts?
Closing remarks
Do you have any additional insights or recommendations for improving future climate resilience projects at the government level? and of WFP?

Interview guide for external actors (UN agencies, donors, development partners)

1. Relevance and coherence
1.1 Alignment with Global and National Climate Strategies
Q1: How well does this project align with global climate adaptation and resilience-building strategies? Probe: How does it fit within broader UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), climate funds, and donor priorities?
Q2: To what extent does the project complement national policies and strategies in Tajikistan? Probe: How does the project contribute to climate resilience, food security, and governance priorities? What was missing?
Q3: How relevant was this project to the needs and priorities of the development community? Probe: Did the project address key gaps in climate adaptation efforts?
2. Effectiveness and efficiency
2.1 Project implementation and collaboration
Q4: How effective was the coordination and collaboration between WFP and external actors, including donors and UN agencies? What was missing?
Q5: How effectively were financial resources managed, including donor funding and co-financing arrangements?
2.2 Results and impact measurement
Q6: What specific capacities within government institutions were strengthened through this project? Probe: How have these new capacities been institutionalized within government structures?
Q7: To the extent of your knowledge, how has the project supported the integration of climate adaptation measures into local and national development plans?
Q8: To what extent has the project contributed to the improvement of beneficiaries' climate resilience practices? Probe: do you know of specific examples of changes in agricultural techniques, water management, or market access?
Q9: To the extent of your knowledge, how has the project contributed to sustained improvements in beneficiaries' livelihoods and adaptive capacities?
Q10: To the extent of your knowledge, how confident are you that the project has contributed to enhancing climate resilience and food security? Probe: Are there clear indicators that demonstrate its impact?
3. Sustainability and institutionalization
3.1 Long-term sustainability of project outcomes
Q11: To the extent of your knowledge, have there been efforts to institutionalize project components within national policies or local governance structures?
Q12: To the extent of your knowledge, how has the project contributed to strengthening the capacity of national institutions and local actors? Probe: Are there plans for scaling up or replicating project activities?
4. Challenges and lessons learned
4.1 Barriers to success and adaptation strategies
Q13: To the extent of your knowledge, what were the major challenges or barriers faced in the implementation of this project?

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<i>Probe: Were there unexpected challenges related to climate, policy shifts, or operational constraints? How effectively did the project adapt to changing circumstances?</i>
<i>4.2 Lessons for future programming</i>
<i>Q14: What key lessons from this project can be considered in future climate adaptation programming? Probe: How can future projects better leverage partnerships and funding mechanisms?</i>
<i>Q15: How could coordination between development partners, donors, and implementing agencies be improved for future projects? Probe: What best practices emerged from this collaboration?</i>
<i>5. Innovation and scaling up</i>
<i>5.1 Innovative approaches and best practices</i>
<i>Q16: To the extent of your knowledge, has the project introduced any innovative approaches that should be scaled up? How feasible is it to replicate or expand this project in other regions or countries?</i>
<i>Closing remarks</i>
<i>Do you have any additional insights or recommendations for improving future climate resilience projects?</i>

Focus Group Discussion Guides

Guidelines for facilitators

This guide is semi-structured, meaning facilitators can adjust the questions to fit the group and follow important themes that come up. Not all questions need to be asked, and facilitators should prioritize topics most relevant to participants. The discussion should feel natural, not like a strict questionnaire.

- *Establish rapport: Begin with an introduction, explain the purpose of the discussion, and reassure participants of confidentiality.*
- *Use simple language: Avoid technical jargon and keep questions easy to understand.*
- *Encourage details: Instead of “yes” or “no” questions, ask for examples and experiences.*
- *Probe deeper: If someone says, “Things have improved,” ask “What has improved?”, “Can you give an example?”*
- *Stay neutral: Do not express strong opinions or lead participants toward certain answers.*
- *Respect all voices: Ensure both men and women have space to speak.*
- *Respect & dignity: Participants must understand the purpose of the discussion and feel safe to speak. They should know that refusing to participate will not affect them negatively.*
- *Confidentiality: Their answers will not be linked to their names. All information will be summarized anonymously.*
- *Safety: The discussion should be held in a comfortable and safe place at a time convenient for participants.*

FGD guide for beneficiaries

Introduction

- *Welcome, and thank you for joining this discussion. We are here to learn about your experiences, challenges, and perspectives related to climate, farming, water, and food security. Your insights will help improve future projects.*
- *There are no right or wrong answers. Please share openly and honestly.*
- *Everything you say will remain confidential. Your name will not be included in any reports.*
- *You are free to stop participating at any time.*

1. Understanding the project

Q1: How did you first hear about this project? Probe: What were your expectations before joining?

Q2: Was the project useful for your [note to facilitator: probe farming, water use, or selling products]? Did it help you with the climate challenges you face?

Q3: Is this the first time the UN supports you? If no, who are you supported by as well?

Q4: Did the training and support meet your needs? Probe: Were changes made to make it easier for women, older people, or people with disabilities to take part?

Q5: Have you received the cash-based transfers, and has it been one time?

2. Experiences of shocks and stressors

Q6: In the past few years, have you or your community experienced any climate shocks (e.g. droughts, floods, extreme heat) or other major stressors? note to facilitator: probe:

- *Can you describe what happened?*
- *How did it affect your household and community?*
- *What challenges did you face in responding to this shock?*

Q7: How did you and your community cope with these challenges? note to facilitator: probe:

- *What strategies did you use to adapt?*
- *Did you receive any support from this project or other sources?*

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- What helped the most in dealing with these shocks?

Q8: Do you think this project has helped you be better prepared (more resilient) to future climate-related challenges? *[note to facilitator: probe:*

- What specific knowledge, tools, or resources have been useful?
- Can you give an example of a situation where you applied what you learned?
- Did the project improve your ability to access food, water, or income in difficult times?

3. What has changed?

Q7: What are the biggest benefits you have seen from the project? How has the way you farm, use water, or sell products changed with the project contribution? Please, share some ways in which things have changed

Q8: Has your family or village seen improvements from this project? *[note to facilitator: probe- Has there been more food, better incomes, or better ways to deal with climate problems?]*

Q9: What challenges have you faced in using what you learned from the project? *Probe: Did you have problems with money, family responsibilities, or other issues?*

Q10: Do you think you're better prepared (more resilient) to climate challenges than before the start of the project? If so, explain why?

3. Will these changes last?

Q11: Do you think the things you learned from this project will continue to help you and your community? *[note to facilitator: probe- Are there groups or leaders in your village who will keep supporting this work?]*

Q12: What would help to make sure the project benefits last longer? *[note to facilitator: probe : Would more training, money, or help from the government make a difference?]* If no additional project funding or support were available, what alternatives or strategies do you think could sustain the benefits?

4. Experiences of women and men

Q13: How did this project affect women in your village? *[note to facilitator: probe- Have women gained more say in farming, selling goods, or family decisions?]*

Q14: Were there any difficulties for women or other groups in joining the project?

Q15: And how did it affect men?

Q16: Has this project changed traditional roles for women and men? Have there been changes in who does certain types of work or makes decisions?

Q17: How could future projects make it easier for everyone to take part?

5. What can be improved?

Q18: What were the biggest difficulties in taking part in this project? *[note to facilitator: probe- Did you face problems in getting materials, attending training, or putting new ideas into practice?]*

Q19: If you could change one thing about the project, what would it be? *[note to facilitator: probe- better training, more financial help, or something else?]*

6. Unexpected results and future ideas

Q20: Were there any unexpected good or bad results from this project? Did the project lead to new opportunities, conflicts, or big changes in the community?

Q21: What advice would you give to make future projects better for communities like yours? What should be done differently next time?

Closing remarks

Thank you for sharing your thoughts. Your feedback will help improve future projects.

If you have any final ideas or concerns, please share them now.

FGD Guide for non-beneficiaries, local actors (NGOs, community leaders)

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Introduction

- Welcome, and thank you for joining this discussion. We are here to learn about your experiences, challenges, and perspectives related to climate, farming, water, and food security. Your insights will help improve future projects.
- There are no right or wrong answers. Please share openly and honestly.
- Everything you say will remain confidential. Your name will not be included in any reports.
- You are free to stop participating at any time.

1. Understanding community needs

Q1: What are the biggest challenges your community faces in farming, water, and food security? Have these problems gotten worse or better over time? What are the biggest reasons for these changes?

Q2: Have you received support from WFP or any organizations or the government to deal with these challenges?

Probe: What kind of support has been the most useful? What additional help would make a real difference in your daily life?

2. Awareness of the project

Q3: Have you heard about this project before? If yes, what do you know about it? Probe: Did you see any activities happening in your community?

Q4: Do you think the project has helped the people who participated? Why or why not? Probe: Have you noticed any changes in [probe: farming, water use, or the economy in your area]?

Probe: Have participants shared knowledge or skills with others in the community?

3. Perceived impact and inclusion

Q5: If you could have joined the project, what kind of support or training would have been most helpful for you?

Q6: What skills or knowledge would have been useful for your family or community?

4. Gender-specific experiences

Q7: How do farming, water, and food security challenges affect men and women differently in your community?

Probe: Have you seen any changes in the role of women and men in farming or decision making over time?

Q8: Did this project have any effect on gender roles in your community, even for people who were not directly involved?

Probe: Did it change how men and women work, make decisions, or access resources?

5. Future support and recommendations

Q9: If another project like this were to come to your community, what should it focus on to be the most helpful?

Probe: What types of support do you think would make the biggest difference in daily life?

Probe: How should future projects be designed to include more people?

Q10: What advice would you give to organizations that want to support communities like yours?

Probe: What do organizations sometimes get wrong when working with communities like yours?

Closing remarks

Thank you for sharing your thoughts and experiences. Your insights are very valuable.

If you have any final ideas or concerns, please share them now.

We appreciate your time, and we hope your voices will help improve future projects.

Site observation checklist

As feasible, a visit of the sites will be organized prior or subsequent to the FGD allowing the Evaluation Team to visit such site/asset/activity/other. Evaluators will complete the observation checklist (see below) during such visits. The checklist does not contain questions to ask, but only a structure to guide the minimum notes to be archived and later triangulated based on each visit.

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WFP activity:	Location:	Date:
Checklist		
1. Precisely what was shown to you related to this activity?	Process(es): describe Equipment/infrastructure(s): describe	
2. Dynamics: did you see beneficiaries receiving WFP services?	Circle: NO YES → describe below:	
2a How many beneficiaries?		
2b Note their visible diversity	Age: Gender: Disability: Ethnicity: Other:	
2c Describe the general atmosphere during the visit (positive neutral negative, but also energetic, interested, bored, anxious etc.)		
3. Visible "hardware": comment on appropriateness of... (use: adequate, inadequate and explain)	Locale/spacing: Exposure to environment/weather: Equipment/infrastructure/materials:	
4. Sustainability measures		
5. Positives: what are the main positive take-aways from the visit?		
6. Concerns: what are the main challenges you take-away from the visit?		
7. Other comments/observations		

Annex 6. Results framework and detailed project performance data

The evaluation applies a **RAG (Red, Amber, Green) rating system** to assess the status of key indicators, providing a clear and visual representation of progress and performance. This approach allows for a systematic classification of indicators based on their achievement levels and associated risks.

Green indicates that an indicator is meeting expected targets, **Yellow** signifies that progress is on track or moderate concerns requiring attention, while **Red** highlights significant shortfalls or risks that may hinder the attainment of objectives. By using the RAG rating, the evaluation ensures a structured and transparent assessment, enabling stakeholders to quickly identify areas of success and those requiring corrective action.

Output	Activity	Implementation status by March 2025	Achievements
Component 1: Capacity strengthening and awareness raising of food-insecure climate vulnerable communities and national actors for enhanced rural resilience and food security			
Output 1.1 Climate and weather products improved and tailored to the needs of vulnerable food-insecure communities through increased capacity of Hydromet.	Activity: 1.1.1 Capacity Building of Hydromet on Data Rescue (DaRe) (digitalization) and climate data management systems.	Completed	• Data Rescue and Digitization: Increased digitalization of historical weather and hydrological data from 30 percent to 53 percent across 11 target districts through equipment support and training. • Capacity Building – Technical Training: Trained 25 Hydromet staff in climate data management, including 10 on Cliware, 10 on R-Instat, and 5 on interpreting climate data for agricultural use. • Forecasting Capacities Enhanced: Enabled AoH to produce long-range (up to 6-month) forecasts with ~75 percent accuracy following on-the-job training with Russian Hydromet and in-country sessions with regional forecasting experts. • Data Analysis and Visualization: Developed climate information products and graphs from five hydrometeorological stations to support seasonal advisories and PICSA sessions. • GIS and Remote Sensing Support: Trained 17 staff in PERSONA MIS for improved weather data collection and processing; coordinated with ADB to avoid duplication and complement GIS training needs. • Improved Information Sharing: Upgraded AoH's public website (with over 18,000 visits) and developed an operational mobile application to enhance accessibility of weather forecasts. • Cross-border Institutional Linkages: Established technical collaboration with Russian Hydromet, recognized by WMO as a regional hub, to support continuous knowledge exchange and forecasting capacity.
	Activity 1.1.2: Capacity building of Hydromet, including on risk mapping and GIS tools to generate monthly and seasonal climate forecasts and to monitor crop and pasture conditions.	Completed	
Output 1.2: Locally relevant delivery mechanisms for the provision of tailored climate	Activity 1.2.1: Development of ICT mechanisms for provision of tailored climate services.	Completed	• Expanded Access to Climate Information: Tailored climate services reached 25,000 farmers directly through SMS and Telegram, with an estimated 125,000 additional beneficiaries reached through four TV and eight radio programs. • User-Centric ICT System Developed: An SMS-based dissemination system was created to deliver customized information based on crop type, location, and whether the farmer uses irrigated or rainfed land, covering all nine climatic zones of Tajikistan.
	Activity 1.2.2: Provision of climate information to farmers	Completed	

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and weather information through relevant ICTs identified and piloted.	(radio/TV/SMS).		• Innovative Use of Digital Tools: The originally planned IVR system was replaced by a more widely used Agro-Telegram bot, which allows farmers to receive weather alerts, agronomic advice, and recommendations in multiple formats (text, tables, etc.). • Integrated Warning System: Both SMS and Telegram platforms were linked to weather-based early warning alerts and recommendation protocols for farming actions in response to forecasted risks. • Interagency Coordination: A multi-agency working group—including MoA, AoH, CEP, and CoES—was formed to vet content, forecasts, and recommendations before dissemination. This group is expected to continue post-project. • Institutional Handover: The ICT system was formally handed over to the Agency of Hydrometeorology (AoH) for long-term management, with continued technical support from WFP through other funding sources. • Public-Private Partnership Piloted: The system was developed in collaboration with mobile operators (e.g., T-Cell, MegaFon), though plans to fully commercialize the.
Output 1.3: Decision making in vulnerable households enhanced through improved capacities to interpret and act on tailored climate advisories.	Activity 1.3.1: Development of relevant PICS Training of Trainers manuals and materials, tailored on the Tajikistan context by the University of Reading.	Completed	• Localization of PICS Approach: The original PICS manual (developed by the University of Reading) was contextualized for Tajikistan through community consultations in targeted districts. The manual and training materials were adapted to local agricultural practices and translated into Tajik. • Capacity Building of Trainers: One national Training of Trainers (ToT) session was held for 25 experts; 10 certified trainers from key government institutions and NGOs were selected to lead district-level training activities. • Intermediary Training Cascade: Ten national trainers trained 200 intermediaries (32 female) from local NGOs and district authorities, with an average of 18 intermediaries per district across 11 targeted districts. Of these, 55 intermediaries (14 female) conducted community-level sessions. • Community Outreach: A total of 253 PICS training sessions were held at the community level, reaching 5,566 smallholder farmers (1,447 women), focusing on climate risk awareness, adaptive practices, and decision-making tools for agriculture. • Evidence of Behavioural Change: An impact assessment in two districts—coordinated by WFP and the University of Reading—found that PICS training contributed to increased
	Activity 1.3.2: Training of Trainers (local NGOS, District Government Officials, and selected community members) to allow for the roll out of the PICS approach in all target districts.	Completed	

			awareness, more climate-informed farming practices, and reported improvements in household income and food security. • Integration with Climate Data Tools: outputs from output 1.1 (e.g. R-Instat climate analysis by AoH) were used in PICSAs training to enhance practical application of climate data in agricultural planning.
Output 1.4: Improved community capacities and awareness on climate change impacts on health and nutrition.	Activity 1.4.1: Community awareness raising training on climate risk management measures, climate advisories, health and nutrition risks.	Completed	• Scoping Study Conducted: The project carried out a national-level scoping study on the linkages between food security, nutrition, health, and climate change. The findings informed the design of a tailored training model for Primary Health Care (PHC) staff, identifying root causes of climate-related malnutrition and outlining appropriate responses. • Cascade Training Model Implemented: Using a cascade approach similar to PICSAs (output 1.3), the project trained 16 national-level medical professionals through a ToT. These trainers then trained over 200 district-level PHC staff, who in turn delivered community-level training in the 11 targeted districts. • Community Training Reached Nearly 4,000 People: A total of 3,793 community members (including 1,549 women) received training on the impact of climate change on food security, agriculture, hygiene, and nutrition through PHC-led sessions. • Awareness Campaigns Conducted Year-Round: Awareness raising was integrated into national events such as Healthy Food Day, World Environment Day, and the International Day of Rural Women. Through these campaigns and distribution of educational materials, the project reached over 15,000 people with key messages on climate-sensitive nutrition and hygiene practices. • Integration with Climate Services: The project built on climate communication channels developed under output 1.2 by designing TV and radio programmes to raise awareness on the impacts of climate change on health and nutrition. These programmes reached an estimated 125,000 people nationwide.
Output 1.5: Publications of lessons learnt, and best practices compiled and disseminated.	Activity 1.5.1: Exchange visits from adjacent communities, lessons learned and awareness raising.	Completed	• Documentation of lessons learned: The process began during the Mid-Term Review (March–September 2023) through consultations with government, non-government stakeholders, and communities. Additional insights were gathered during two cooperating partner meetings, where good practices and implementation experiences were exchanged. • Exchange visits and peer learning: A total of 25 exchange visits were conducted across three regions, involving 108 beneficiaries who shared experiences on the management and
	Activity 1.5.2: Dissemination of publications on lessons learnt and best practices.	Completed	

	Activity 1.5.3: National conference to inform policy development based on lessons learnt.	Completed	use of project-supported assets. These visits promoted replication of successful practices such as underground tree watering systems and tree planting in saline soils. • Women's participation in knowledge events: 45 women farmers from Khovaling and Muminobod districts participated in regional exhibitions to gain exposure to market-based agricultural practices and explore opportunities for expanding their businesses. • National-level policy engagement: Project learning was presented at national forums, including the Fifth Central Asian Climate Change Conference (CACCC) in May 2023 and the UN's Early Warning for All inception workshop, where WFP and AoH shared experiences on climate data and forecasting systems. • Media and communication campaigns: A targeted media campaign was launched through print, radio, and local language outlets, resulting in over 20 media reports and regular success stories published in local newspapers. WFP communications team from HQ produced a "story of change" video during their mission to Tajikistan. • Knowledge products disseminated: More than 15,000 awareness materials were developed and distributed by CEP, along with two formal documents capturing good practices and lessons learned. Regular project factsheets were shared with stakeholders through social and mass media and public events.
Output 1.6: Adaptation plans integrated at district development committees (DDC) with full participation of community members and local authorities.	Activities 1.6.1: Review of district plans with local authorities.	Completed	• Local government engagement and working groups established: In each of the 11 target districts, a climate change adaptation working group was established through formal decrees by the Heads of Districts, enabling institutional ownership and integration into district-level planning processes. • Capacity building of local authorities: A total of 240 government officials (members of the working groups) were trained on gender mainstreaming, climate change adaptation, and budgeting. This enhanced their capacity to design climate-sensitive strategies and support participatory planning processes. • Risk assessment and prioritization: Participatory assessments were conducted to identify climate risks, map vulnerable communities, and define priority actions with a long-term adaptation lens. These assessments informed the development of district-specific adaptation plans. • Integration of climate adaptation into district plans: All 11 districts successfully integrated climate change adaptation plans into their district development plans (DDPs), which were formally approved by local parliaments for implementation.
	Activity: 1.6.2: Development of 11 district level plans integrating climate change adaptation.	Completed	

			• Planning effectiveness assessed: An analysis of nine DDPs from previous years found that approximately 70 percent of planned activities had been implemented, indicating a relatively high level of follow-through and feasibility in district planning processes.
Component 2: Resilience building at household and community level through diversification of livelihoods and establishment of value chains for market access			
Output 2.1: Climate change adaptation supported through diversification of livelihoods.	Activity 2.1.1: Establishment of orchards and other agroforestry activities for soil/water conservation and food production covering an area of 600 ha across 185 villages.	Progress delayed	• Orchards established on 400 hectares: A total of 400 hectares of orchards were developed across the targeted districts, with 66,000 tree seedlings planted and an average survival rate of 80 percent. Chain-link fencing was installed on 300 hectares, providing essential protection for the orchards. A total of 1,780 CBT recipients (8,900 direct beneficiaries) received cash assistance for planting and maintenance. • 720 beneficiaries trained on orchard management: Beneficiaries received practical training on planting techniques, watering, mulching, pruning, fertilizing, and pest inspection to support orchard sustainability and productivity.
	Activity 2.1.2: Capacity building to women groups on livelihood activities related to agroforestry and agriculture (fruit/vegetable storage/drying, processing, and marketing)	Completed	• 200 hectares of agroforestry land developed: Through a joint forest management approach, 200 hectares of agroforestry land were cultivated by landless beneficiaries, supported by long-term land leases from the Agency of Forestry. A total of 50,400 fruit and non-fruit trees were planted, and 1,580 households (7,900 direct beneficiaries) participated and received cash-based transfers. • Support to women-headed households through productive assets: 400 women-headed households received greenhouses, solar cookers, and food dryers under output 2.3. These assets were accompanied by training in greenhouse management, food processing, business skills, financial literacy, and confidence-building, in collaboration with UN Women. • Creation of peer-support networks among rural women: Due to the absence of existing women's groups, the project established 44 location-based WhatsApp groups to connect women beneficiaries, promote mutual support, and facilitate collective sales of produce. Each group included 8–10 women, though limited connectivity and access to mobile devices were noted constraints. • Community and institutional engagement: Working with District Working Groups, Cooperating Partners, and relevant government agencies (e.g. Agency of Forestry), the project ensured site selection, training delivery, and resource distribution were well-coordinated and locally owned.

Output 2.2: Improved water management for drinking water and small-scale irrigation.	Activity 2.2.1: Rehabilitation and/or replacement of drinking water supply system (pipelines, water tanks, wind water pumps).	Completed	• Rehabilitation of drinking water supply systems (DWSS): A total of 50 DWSS were rehabilitated across 11 districts, directly benefiting 7,300 people and indirectly reaching 21,260 more. The systems included post-disaster rehabilitation (40 percent), new systems (35 percent), and population-driven expansions (25 percent), with co-financing arrangements in some cases based on government guarantees. • Green and grey infrastructure investments scaled up: The project rehabilitated 200 km of irrigation channels and introduced efficient irrigation solutions, including 300 hectares under drip irrigation and 16.5 hectares irrigated with solar-powered pumps. These interventions benefited 9,800 people directly and improved adaptive capacity to drought and water scarcity for an additional 9,362 individuals. • Expansion of irrigation access: As a result of the interventions, 3,603 hectares of land gained improved access to irrigation, with at least 20 percent of this area previously classified as rainfed and now converted to irrigated land. • Scaling of drip irrigation technology: Drip irrigation was introduced across 300 hectares, primarily within orchards established by the project. About 30 percent of these systems were installed in newly created orchards, benefiting 90 new farmers (450 direct beneficiaries). Installations targeted water-scarce and sloped areas to reduce erosion and improve water efficiency. • Increased adoption of climate-smart irrigation: Early adopters of drip irrigation reported improved satisfaction and water efficiency, particularly in drought-prone areas. As drip irrigation gains popularity, the market in Tajikistan is expanding, with decreasing costs encouraging smallholder adoption. • Deployment of solar-powered water pumps: A total of 17 solar-powered pumps were installed in off-grid rural areas, significantly improving irrigation access for smallholder farmers. Due to strong demand from both communities and local authorities, the number of units was increased beyond initial targets.
	Activity 2.2.2: Rehabilitation of irrigation systems (canal cleaning, pipeline rehabilitation/installation, drip irrigation).	Completed	
Output 2.3: Provision of and training to utilize greenhouses, renewable energy and	Activity 2.3.1: Installation of up to 112 climate-proof storage facilities and training	Completed	• Storage facilities constructed or rehabilitated: A total of 112 food storage facilities were built or upgraded across 11 districts—33 for individual households and 79 for community use (serving at least 10 households each). These facilities engaged 1,363 people in construction and benefited 6,815 individuals. Improved storage led to a 20 percent reduction in post-harvest losses, contributing to increased household food security and income stability.
	Activity 2.3.2: Installation of 400 polycarbonate climate-proof	Completed	

climate-proof post-harvest storage facilities established to withstand long-term climate change.	greenhouses with solar panels in 64 villages and training		• Delayed asset distribution resolved in 2023: Implementation of greenhouse and solar technology distribution was delayed due to adjustments in project design (e.g. use of prefabricated greenhouses) and required approval from GCF. • 400 households headed by women received asset packages: Each beneficiary received a full set of three climate-resilient assets—a greenhouse, a solar fruit dryer, and a solar cooker. The asset bundle aimed to extend growing seasons, reduce post-harvest losses, and lower household energy costs. • Greenhouse usage extended agricultural season: Beneficiaries harvested 75,590 kg of vegetables, extending the growing season from 6 to 8 months. Seedlings grown in early spring were also sold or shared locally, supporting household income and community resilience. • Solar dryers used to preserve nearly 34,000 kg of produce: 400 women were trained on proper use of the solar dryers, enabling them to preserve 33,920 kg of fruits and vegetables—supporting year-round access to food and adding value to excess harvest. • Solar cookers contributed to energy savings: The 400 distributed solar cookers helped households save 201 kW of electricity and 89 kg of wood, reducing both household energy costs and carbon emissions. In rural areas, they were especially valued for boiling water for hygiene and domestic use.
	Activity 2.3.3: Provision of 400 solar fruit dryers and training	Completed	
	Activity 2.3.4: Installation of 400 solar cookers and training	Completed	
Output 2.4: Household resilience and adaptive capacity of climate vulnerable poor in target areas improved.	Activities 2.4.1: Provision of market information including market locations, demand for commodities, prices etc. to 500 Dehkan Farms.	Completed	• 500 farmers connected to market information systems: Farmers across the targeted districts were integrated into the ICT platform developed under output 1.2, enabling regular access to price data for 16 agricultural products—including potatoes, carrots, onions, cabbage, and rice. • Market data collected monthly from 15 local markets: Real-time pricing information was compiled and disseminated to farmers to support informed decision making around production and marketing. • Training on marketing and supply chain delivered: All 500 farmers received training in agricultural marketing and supply chain management. This training enhanced Dehkan Farms' capacity to forecast production volumes, estimate pricing, and align cropping decisions with market demand. • Improved production planning and income potential: Access to timely market data, combined with practical training, enabled farmers to plan agricultural activities more strategically and maximize profits, contributing to greater household resilience and adaptive capacity.
	Activity 2.4.2: Training of 500 Dehkan Farms and information sharing to better link local production with markets and supply chain	Completed	

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Source: Annual Performance Report 2020–2024; Mid-Term Review 2023; Final WFP project report, 2025

Progress against outcome indicators against the logical framework of the project ¹¹⁹

Results	Indicator	Remediation ¹²⁰ June 2023	Baseline	Target	Final	Status
Core indicator (Adaptation)	A) Direct beneficiaries of GCF funded project/programme (Units: number of individuals and percentage)		Total: 0 Male:0 Female:0	Total: 52,000 Male: 25,000 Female: 27,000	Total: 52,512 Male: 27,831 Female: 24,681	Overall target met, but direct female beneficiaries remain under the final target
	B) Indirect Beneficiaries of GCF funded project/programme (Units: number of individuals and percentage)		Total: 0 Male:0 Female:0	Total: 70,000 Male: 33,600 Female: 36,400	Total: 71,335 Male: 36,381 Female: 34,954	Overall target met, but direct female beneficiaries remain under the final target
	C) Number of total beneficiaries relative to total population (Units: percentage)		0	1.5 percent	1.24 percent of total country population	Population of Tajikistan has increased from 8,208,000 to 10,077,600 population since project submission; thus percentage is lower than the target.

¹¹⁹ Source: Annual Performance Report 2020–2024; Mid-Term Review 2023; Final WFP project report, 2025

¹²⁰ Remediation Report, Results LogFrame, June 2023

Progress against outcome indicator A1.0 Increased resilience and enhanced livelihoods of the most vulnerable people, communities, and regions: the project has shown progress in promoting climate-resilient livelihood options, increasing from 0 beneficiaries at baseline to 52,512 individuals (27,831 men and 24,680 women) by the latest reporting end of December 2024. This demonstrates consistent growth and an almost equal gender balance in achieving livelihood resilience. Overall, the indicators show that more male beneficiaries have benefited from increased resilience than female beneficiaries.

Results	Indicators	Remediation ¹²¹ June 2023	Baseline	Target	Final	Status
A1.0 Increased resilience and enhanced livelihoods of the most vulnerable people, communities, and regions	A1.2 Number of men and women benefiting from the adoption of diversified, climate resilient livelihood options (including fisheries, agriculture, tourism etc) (Units: number of individuals and percentage)	Unit: Number of individuals, baseline remains 0 due to GCF guidelines/ disaggregation by gender	Total: 0 Male:0 Female:0	Total: 50,000 Male: 25,000 Female: 25,000	Total: 52,512 Male: 27, 831 Female: 24,680	Overall target met, but female beneficiaries remain under the final target

Progress against outcome indicator A2.0 Increased resilience of health and wellbeing and food and water security: resilience in food and water security (outcome indicators A1.2 and A2.2) improved for the targeted regions and districts, with food-secure households growing from 2,400 to 10,552 (47 percent female-headed). Similarly, access to reliable and safe water (indicator A2.3) has expanded to 38,026 individuals (20,153 men and 17,872 women), reflecting advancements in addressing climate-induced vulnerabilities. Both indicators met their final target.

Results	Indicators	Remediation ¹²² June 2023	Baseline	Target	Final	Status
A2.0 Increased resilience of health and wellbeing and food and water security	A2.2 Number of food-secure households (in areas/periods at risk of climate change impacts)	Unit: number of households/ gender	2,400 food-secure households (9 percent women)	10,000 food-secure households	10,552 food-secure households (47 percent female)	Target met

¹²¹ Remediation Report, Results LogFrame, June 2023

¹²² Remediation Report, Results LogFrame, June 2023

	A2.3 Number of men and women with year-round access to reliable and safe water supply despite climate shocks and stresses. (Units: number of individuals and percentage)		Total: 0 Male:0 Female:0	Total: 38,000 Male: 19,000 Female: 19,000	Total: 38,026 Male: 20,153 Female: 17,872	Target met
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Progress against outcome indicator A7.0 Strengthened adaptive capacity and reduced exposure to climate risks: The project made progress in increasing the use of tools, instruments, and strategies to address climate change. By December 2024, the fund's activities supported 11,593 households, 10 NGOs, 13 private sector entities, and 131 government staff, surpassing the initial mid-term target and meeting the final target (apart from vulnerable households). For outcome indicator A7.2 "Number of men and women reached by climate-related early warning systems and risk reduction measures" achievements reached a total of 114,000 beneficiaries meeting its final target.

Results	Indicators	Remediation ¹²³ June 2023	Baseline	Target	Final	Status
A7.0 Strengthened adaptive capacity and reduced exposure to climate risks	A7.1: Use by vulnerable households, communities, businesses and public sector services of fund supported tools, instruments, strategies, and activities to respond to climate change and variability (specification and target revised after remediation)	Updated the assumption to clarify on the how the households will be counted	0 vulnerable households, 0 NGOs, 0 private sector, 0 Government Staff using the fund-supported tools, instruments, and strategies	12,000 vulnerable households, 10 NGOs, 10 private sector, 100 government staff using the fund supported tools, instruments, and strategies	11,593 households, 10 NGOs, 13 private sector, 132 government staff	Target met (one indicator fell minimally short)
	A7.2 Number of men and women reached by climate related early warning systems and other risk reduction measures established/	The baseline is reported as 0 in the revised logframe. / disaggregation by	Total=0 Male=0 Female+0	Total: 112,000 Male: 3,760 Female: 58,240	Total = 114,000 Male: 58,965 Female: 55,035	Target met

¹²³ Remediation Report, Results LogFrame, June 2023

	strengthened	gender				
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Progress against outcome indicator A8.0: Strengthened awareness of climate threats and risk-reduction processes: Beneficiaries have been provided with the information about risk-reduction measures through community training and orientation, awareness campaigns on climate threats and related appropriate responses reached the final target of 116,000.

Results	Indicators	Remediation ¹²⁴ June 2023	Baseline	Target	Final	Status
A8.0 Strengthened awareness of climate threats and risk-reduction processes	A8.1 Number of men and women made aware climate threats and related appropriate responses	The baseline is reported as 0 in the revised logframe / disaggregation by gender	Total=0 Male=0 Female=0	Total: 116,000 Male: 55,680 Female: 60,320	Total = 116,965 Male: 59,393 Female:57,572	Target met

Component 1: Capacity strengthening and awareness raising of food-insecure climate vulnerable communities and national actors for enhanced rural resilience and food security					
Indicator	Remediation ¹²⁵ June 2023	Baseline	Target Final	Cumulative	Status
Change in duration of advance localized forecasting in	x	5 day Forecast Capacity by Hydromet	Seasonal Forecast Capacity (90)	Seasonal Forecast Capacity	Target met

¹²⁴ Remediation Report, Results LogFrame, June 2023

¹²⁵ Ibid

targeted areas				180	
percent of reached HH using agro-climatic advice to make livelihood decisions (e.g. on planting dates, crop types, fertilizer amount)	x	0 percent	40 percent	50 percent 25,000 farmers received climate information and agriculture advisories through ICT system under output 1.2 against direct beneficiaries (50,000).	Target met
Level of incorporation of climate change adaptation priorities within District Plans.	x	Level 1 = 11 District Plans Level 2 = 0 District Plans Level 3 = 0 District Plans Level 4 = 0 District Plans	Level 1 = 0 District Plans Level 2 = 5 District Plans Level 3 = 4 District Plans Level 4 = 2 District Plans	Level 1 = 0 District Plans Level 2 = 2 District Plans Level 3 = 0 District Plans Level 4 = 9 District Plans	Target met

Component 2: Resilience building at household and community level through diversification of livelihoods and improved market access.					
Indicator	Remediation ¹²⁶ June 2023	Baseline	Target Final	Cumulative	Final (March 2025)
Proportion of the population (percent) in targeted communities reporting benefits from an enhanced livelihood asset base (Asset Based Interventions)	x	0 percent	40 percent from baseline (0)	83.2 percent	Target met

¹²⁶ Remediation Report, Results LogFrame, June 2023

Hectares of land irrigated for increased access to water for agricultural use.	x	0 Ha of land irrigated with drip irrigation	300 Ha of land irrigated with drip irrigation	300 Ha of land irrigated with drip irrigation	Target met
Agricultural production from targeted farmers stored in climate-proof storage facilities (MT) (unit and target changed after remediation)	Name of indicator was changed from Volume to Tonnes	0 metric ton	1,745 metric tonnes	1,775 metric tonnes	Target met
Household agricultural production from greenhouse production	Indicator name was updated. "Volume of has been removed"/ disaggregation by gender	0kg	84,096 kg	84,136 kg	Target met
No. of smallholder farmers accessing market information through SMS	x	0 Farmers accessing SMS for free. 0 Farmers subscribing	30,000 of Farmers accessing SMS for free. 6,000 Farmers subscribing	25,000 (no information on subscriptions)	Cumulative falls short of meeting final target

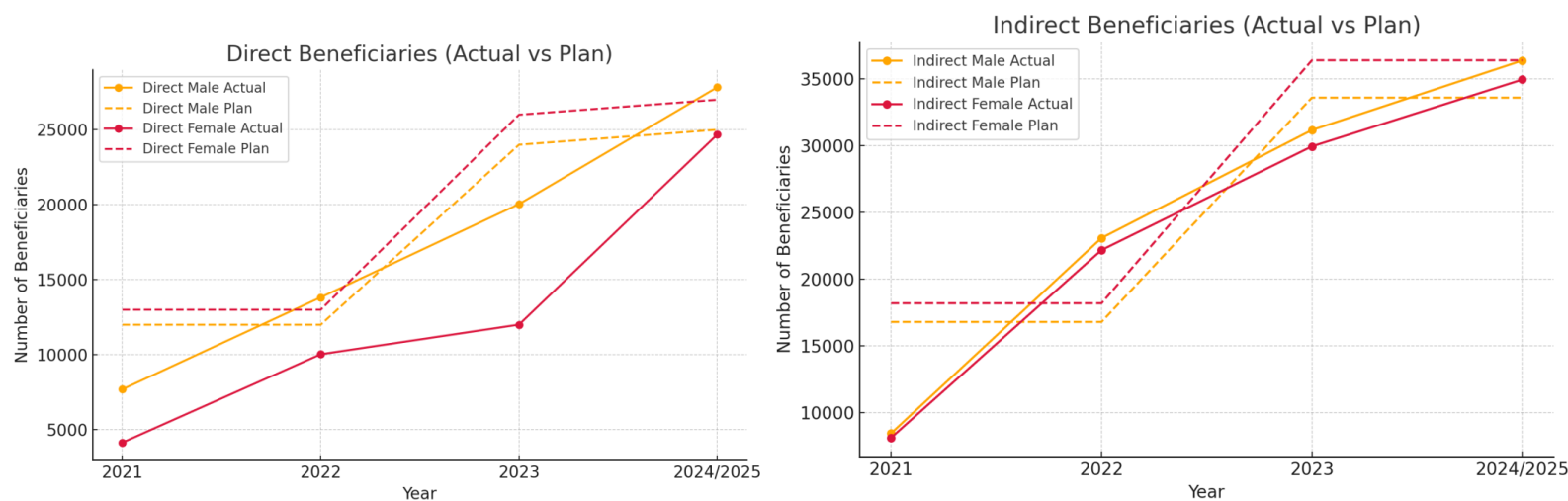
percent of income of market sales from different sources (school meals, local market, domestic market, export)	x	0	Local Market: Baseline +75 percent School Meals: Baseline +50 percent Domestic Market: Baseline +20 percent Export Market: Baseline +10 percent	Local Market: 68 percent School Meals: 0.34 percent Domestic Market: 39 percent Export Market: 0 percent	Target met for some indicators but not all
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Source, Annual Performance Report 2024, at the time of the inception report the report was pending final approval and quality assurance. Not verified yet. Mid-Term Review 2023.

Beneficiaries reached

		2020/2021			2022			2023			2024 /2025		
	Beneficiaries	Actual	Plan	%	Actual	Plan	%	Actual	Plan	%	Actual	Plan	%
Direct	Male	7697	12000	64%	13823	12000	115%	20043	24000	84%	27831	25000	111%
	Female	4145	13000	32%	10031	13000	77%	12006	26000	62%	24681	27000	91%
	Total	11842	25000	47%	23854	25000	95%	32049	50000	72%	52512	52000	101%
Indirect	Male	8455	16800	50%	23088	16800	137%	31173	33600	93%	36381	33600	108%
	Female	8124	18200	45%	22183	18200	122%	29951	36400	82%	34954	36400	96%
	Total	16579	35000	47%	45271	35000	129%	61124	70000	87%	71335	70000	102%

Source: Annual Performance Report 2020–2024; Mid-Term Review 2023; Final WFP project report, 2025



Source: Annual Performance Report 2020–2024; Mid-Term Review 2023; Final WFP project report, 2025

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List of selected districts, jamoats (sub-districts) and planned number of beneficiaries¹²⁷

Region	Total # planned beneficiaries per region	MTR reached	Total # reached beneficiaries per region	percent planned	District	Jamoat	# Targeted villages	# Planned number of direct beneficiaries	# of direct beneficiaries reached
DRD	23490	24430		47 percent	Faizobod	Buston	5	2050	2132
						Mehrobod	15	1820	1893
						Vashgird	4	1315	1368
					Nurobod	Mujikharf	15	3780	3931
						Khumdon	10	2480	2579
					Rasht	Navdi	11	3420	3557
						Yasmand	14	1250	1300
					Tojikobod	Langari Shoh	13	2245	2335
						Nushor	10	2380	2475
					Jirgotol	Pildon	8	1650	1716
						Alga	7	1100	1144

¹²⁷ Updated data for beneficiaries reached by district, *Jamoat* and village was not provided during the inception phase.

Region	Total # planned beneficiaries per region	MTR reached	Total # reached beneficiaries per region	percent planned	District	Jamoat	# Targeted villages	# Planned number of direct beneficiaries	# of direct beneficiaries reached
Khatlon	10940	11378		22 percent	Khovaling	Jombakht	13	3050	3172
						Sari-Osiyob	13	2150	2236
					Muminobod	Kulchashma	27	3640	3786
						Dehibaland	16	2100	2184
GBAO	15570	16192		31 percent	Rushon	Savnob	10	700	728
						Basid	4	350	364
						Bartang	8	420	437
						Center - Rushan	6	1100	1144
					Shugnon	Yankala	15	1400	1456
						Ver	7	930	967
						Navobod	8	1150	1196
						Suchon	13	1500	1560
						Porshinev (Shrinjonov)	15	1950	2028
					Roshtqala	Segd	22	900	936

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Region	Total # planned beneficiaries per region	MTR reached	Total # reached beneficiaries per region	percent planned	District	Jamoat	# Targeted villages	# Planned number of direct beneficiaries	# of direct beneficiaries reached
						Barvoz	17	520	541
						Gadoallev K	11	670	697
						Zamirov	8	450	468
						Yuhekov	12	1510	1570
						Ptup	6	670	696
					Ishkashim	Zong	5	1350	1404
TOTAL							348	50000	52512

Source: Terms of Reference for the Final Evaluation, GCF-funded Project WFP Tajikistan Country Office, July 2024

Project's logical framework as provided in the ToR

H.1.1. Paradigm shift objectives and impacts at the fund level	
Paradigm shift objectives	
<i>Increased climate-resilient sustainable development</i>	The proposed project contributes to climate-resilient development pathways in Tajikistan through the sustained impact of project measures that have high potential for replicability and scale. Overall, these impacts can be scaled to reach 100 percent of national coverage. The project stimulates a demand-based model for climate information and use of ICT/mobile platforms to enable public and private sector participation, innovation and market development. It contributes to key policies in the country and supports efforts to mainstream climate change adaptation into development plans. It institutionalizes knowledge generation and learning through the incorporation of climate change and food security in the national and district level planning processes. At the community level, the project introduces new technologies, rehabilitates dilapidated assets and strengthens community resilience through social and behavioural change.

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Expected result	Indicator	Means of verification (MoV)	Baseline	Target		Assumptions
				Mid-term	Final	
Fund-level impacts						
Core indicator (Adaptation)	Total number of direct and indirect beneficiaries	Beneficiary Registry (SCOPE Digital Registration System), Government Census Data.	Direct: Total: 0 0 men 0 women Indirect: Total: 0 0 men 0 women	Direct: Total: 26,000 12,500 men 13,500 women Indirect: Total: 35,000 16,800 men 18,200 women	Direct: Total: 52,000 25,000 men 27,000 women Indirect: Total: 70,000 33,600 men 36,400 women	- Participants and communities are interested and motivated to participate in project activities. - Political and economic stability is ensured during the period of the project. - No major shocks are experienced during the period of the project. - Government and national institutions are supportive of the project and have the needed technical capacities.
	Number of beneficiaries relative to total population	Beneficiary Registry (SCOPE Digital Registration System), Government Census Data	0	0.7 percent of total	1.5 percent of total country population ¹²⁸	- The project is in line with national strategies/policies. - Access conditions do not prevent beneficiaries from participating to the activities.

¹²⁸ According to the World Bank, the total population of Tajikistan as of 2013 was 8,208 million people.

<i>A1.0 Increased resilience and enhanced livelihoods of the most vulnerable people, communities, and regions</i>	A1.2 Number of men and women benefitting from the adoption of diversified, climate resilient livelihoods options	Community consultation workshops, household surveys, Government Census Data	Total: 0 0 men 0 women	Total: 25,000 12,500 men 12,500 women	Total: 50,000 25,000 men 25,000 women	- There are no major social, material, or economic barriers for women and men to participate to the project. - Communities are interested and willing to participate in identification, planning implementation and maintenance of project activities. - Vulnerable poor in target location are not familiar with climate resilient livelihood options.
<i>A2.0 Increased resilience of health and wellbeing and food and water security</i>	A2.2 Number of food-secure households (in areas/periods at risk of climate change impacts)	Household surveys, FSMS ¹²⁹	2,400 ¹³⁰ food-secure households	5,000 food-secure households	10,000 food-secure households	- CARI methodology appropriately applied and relevance as food security measurement maintained
	A2.3 Number of men and women with year-round access to reliable and safe water supply despite climate shocks and stresses	Household surveys and Jamoat level information ¹³¹	0 Male 0 Female 0 Total	13,500 Male 13,500 Female 27,000 Total ¹³²	19,000 Male 19,000Female 38,000 Total	- There are no major social, material, or economic barriers for women and men to participate to the project. - Communities are interested and willing to participate in identification,

¹²⁹ The food security metrics is based on Consolidated Approach for Reporting Indicators (CARI) of Food Security which combines summary of indicators into the Food Security Index (FSI) to show the population's overall food security status.

¹³⁰ Baseline and targets to be defined during inception and reported/agreed to the satisfaction of the GCF in the project inception report.

¹³¹ Water Users Association data might not be available in all villages. Jamoat-collected information is more reliable and widespread. Other means of verification could be represented by Census Data (carried out every 10 years) and/or by the Demographic Health Survey (DHS), which is carried out every 5 years. The best MoV option (or combination of options) will be defined during inception and reported/agreed to the satisfaction of the GCF in the project inception report.

¹³² Baseline and targets to be defined during the inception and reported/agreed to the satisfaction of the GCF in the project inception report.

						planning implementation and maintenance of project activities.
H.1.2. Outcomes, outputs, activities, and inputs at project/programme level						
Expected Result	Indicator	Means of verification (MoV)	Baseline	Target		Assumptions
				Mid-term	Final	
Outcomes that contribute to Fund-level impacts						
A7.0 Strengthened adaptive capacity and reduced exposure to climate risks	A7.1: Use by vulnerable households, communities, businesses and public-sector services of Fund-supported tools, instruments, strategies, and activities to respond to climate change and variability	Project records, Annual Performance Reports	0 vulnerable households, 0 NGOs, 0 private sector, 0 government staff using the fund supported tools, instruments, and strategies	6,000 vulnerable households, 8 NGOs, 5 private sector, 50 government staff using the fund supported tools, instruments, and strategies	12,000 vulnerable households, 10 NGOs, 10 private sector, 100 government staff using the fund supported tools, instruments, and strategies	This indicator will count the numbers of households, business entities, and public and private agencies who use the grants, tools, instruments, and strategies developed or improved by the project. Public and private institutions will be willing to collaborate with the project. Vulnerable households have willingness to adopt new tools and instruments after getting the knowledge, skills, and information about the project, and provided necessary supports

	A7.2 Number of men and women reached by climate related early warning systems and other risk reduction measures established/ strengthened	Participants of community level PICSA workshops from project database Hydromet Records/Telecom Records for ICT (Information Communication Technology) based mechanism Knowledge and awareness/ perception surveys	Total: 0 Women: 0 Men: 0	Total: 56,000 Women: 29,120 Men: 26,880	Total: 112,000 Women: 58,240 Men: 53,760	Project will reach to project would reach 40 percent of the beneficiaries in the project sites (out of total 270,000) by ICT-based early warning systems and additional 4,000 beneficiaries outside of the project sites. Both direct and indirect beneficiaries will be interested to participate in awareness raising events, and early advisory services. Community has low level of exposure to climate related early warning system and risk reduction measures. No barriers exist for men and women to access climate information.
A8.0 Strengthened awareness of climate threats and risk-reduction processes	A8.1 Number of men and women made aware climate threats and related appropriate responses	Project records (participants of PICSA training, SBCC (Social Behaviour Change Communication) training Knowledge and awareness/perception surveys at the end of project	Total: 0 Women; 0 Men: 0	Total: 67,500 Women: 35,000 Men: 32,500	Total: 116,000 Women: 60,320 Men: 55,680	Communities are interested and willing to participate in awareness sessions.
Project/programme performance indicators						
Expected Result	Indicator	Means of verification (MoV)	Baseline	Target		Assumptions
				Mid-term	Final	
Component 1: Capacity strengthening and awareness raising of food-	Change in duration of advance localized forecasting in targeted areas	Hydromet products	5 day Forecast Capacity by	Monthly Forecast Capacity	Seasonal Forecast Capacity	Trained personnel are retained and not transferred to other positions – not related to climate change. Number of men employed in the

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insecure climate vulnerable communities and national actors for enhanced rural resilience and food security			Hydromet ¹³³			Government structure is much higher.
	percent of reached HH using agro-climatic advice to make livelihood decisions (e.g. on planting dates, crop types, fertilizer amount)	Household surveys	0 percent ¹³⁴	25 percent	40 percent	Households in 11 targeted districts are motivated to invest time and effort in the activities
	Level ¹³⁵ of incorporation of climate change adaptation priorities within District Plans.	District level plans	Level 1 = 11 District Plans Level 2 = 0 District Plans Level 3 = 0 District Plans Level 4 = 0 District Plans	Level 1 = 5 District Plans Level 2 = 6 District Plans Level 3 = 0 District Plans Level 4 = 0 District Plans	Level 1 = 0 District Plans Level 2 = 5 District Plans Level 3 = 4 District Plans Level 4 = 2 District Plans	Local and district governments recognize and prioritize climate risks as a threat to development gains
Component 2: Resilience	Proportion of the population (percent) in	Household surveys	0	30 percent from	40 percent from	Farmers and women groups in targeted districts are motivated to invest time and

¹³³ Baseline and targets to be defined during inception and reported/agreed to the satisfaction of the GCF in the project inception report.

¹³⁴ Baseline will be updated with the survey conducted at the project initiation and reported/agreed with the Fund in the project inception report.

¹³⁵ Level of measurement will apply a 1-4: Level 1 = District plans incorporate limited/no climate change adaptation priorities; Level 2 = District plans incorporate community-driven climate change priorities; Level 3 = District Plans incorporating budget allocations for community-driven climate change priorities; Level 4 = District Plans demonstrate expenditures on community-driven climate change priorities.

building at household and community level through diversification of livelihoods and establishment of value chains for market access	targeted communities reporting benefits from an enhanced livelihood asset base (ABI)			baseline	baseline	efforts in the activities
	Hectares of land irrigated for increased access to water for agricultural use.	Household surveys and in-field assessments	0 Ha of land irrigated with drip irrigation	150 Ha of land irrigated with drip irrigation	300 Ha of land irrigated with drip irrigation	Target populations are interested and willing to participate in identification, planning, implementation, and maintenance of project activities
	Agricultural production from targeted farmers stored in climate-proof storage facilities	Records of storage facilities and greenhouses	0 metric tonnes	815 metric tonnes	1,745 metric tonnes	Community supports the initiative and willing to participate. one community storage facility will have capacity of 20 Tonnes and one household storage facility have 5 tonnes capacity
	Household agricultural production from greenhouse production	Records of greenhouses and project reports	0 kg	41,184 kg	84,096 kg	Community supports the initiative and willing to participate. Assumptions made for estimating the target: The yearly production from the greenhouse is assumed to be 205 Kg to estimate Mid-term and final targets.
	No. of smallholders accessing market information through SMS	Project reports, Telecom service providers records	0 Farmers accessing SMS for free. 0 Farmers subscribing ¹³⁶	18,000 of Farmers accessing SMS for free. 0 of Farmers subscribing	30,000 of Farmers accessing SMS for free. 6,000 Farmers subscribing	Small holders will negotiate with middlemen for better sales prices. Opportunities for public and private sector partnerships exists.

¹³⁶ Baseline to be defined during inception and reported/agreed to the satisfaction of the GCF in the project inception report.

	Percent of income of market sales from different sources (school meals, local market, domestic market, export)	Project Reports	0 ¹³⁷	Local Market: Baseline +50 percent School Meals: Baseline +25 percent Domestic Market: Baseline +10 percent Export Market: Baseline +0 percent	Local Market: Baseline +75 percent School Meals: Baseline +50 percent Domestic Market: Baseline +20 percent Export Market: Baseline +10 percent	
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Overview of WFP activities and interventions			
Activity	Description	Sub-activity	Description

¹³⁷ Baseline and targets to be defined during inception and reported/agreed to the satisfaction of the GCF in the project inception report.

1.1.1 (output 1.1) Capacity Building of Hydromet on Data Rescue (DaRe) (digitalization) and climate data management systems.	The process of paper-based observation data rescue through digitization will be supported to assist climate impact assessments, crop-weather relationship studies and climate analysis.	• Identification of relevant Hydromet staff. • Training material developed. • Training carried out on relevant topics. • Development of training reports, workplans, and SOPs.	• 25 government staff trained in using climate data to generate climate information and advisories. • Procurement of equipment that includes server-side storage for DARE datasets. This will also constitute separate storage for data security and backup. • User manual for DaRe developed. • 1 Training report. • Data bank at Hydromet established. • 1 Final report on Data Rescue prepared. • Procurement of equipment that includes server-side storage for DARE datasets. This will also constitute separate storage for data security and backup
1.1.2 (output 1.1) Capacity building of Hydromet, including on risk mapping and GIS tools to generate monthly and seasonal climate forecasts and to monitor crop and pasture conditions.	Hands-on training will be provided to support seasonal forecasts and monitoring of crops and pasture conditions based on satellite data.	• Identification of relevant Hydromet staff. • Training material developed. • Training carried out on relevant topics. • Development of training reports, workplans, and SOPs. • Development of data repositories. • Development of regular updates and maps on different topics.	• 25 government staff trained in using climate data to generate climate information and advisories. • 2 Training Manuals and Training Plan. • Establishment of requisite training datasets. • 2 weeks beginners' course on generation of monthly and seasonal forecasts covered by international consultants through on-the-job training for 25 trainees. • 1-month exchange programmes for advanced users with other regional, national hydrometeorological services (e.g., Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan) targeting 4 department staff. Technical staff from Agrometeorological and Hydrological Departments will be prioritized. • 2-week on-the-job climate information training undertaken by the WMO international consultants for 25 trainees

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			• 4- week training on specialized departmental technologies realized through consultations with specialized institutions and/or software/equipment developers • 1 Training report on generation of monthly and seasonal forecasts produced. • 1-week generalized GIS training) for 25 Hydromet trainees. Generalized GIS/RS thematic topics will include: Basic of GIS and Remote Sensing; GIS mapping techniques; Weather/climate data processing and modelling; disaster and risk mapping etc. • 1-week specialized GIS training for 15 Hydromet trainees on thematic topics specialized for Crop/pasture condition monitoring; Crop yield forecasting; Climate risk prediction and scenario modelling • 1-week training on cross-cutting topics: Data standards, policies, and database management; Information/data sharing technologies (web-based platforms and mobile applications); field data collection (e.g., drought) • 1 Monthly-updated Data Bank Inventory on Weather Station Data • 1 Monthly-updated Data Bank Inventory on Remote Sensing Data • 4 Maps of Station Data Updated Regularly (daily, weekly, monthly, annually) • 1 Table with Station Data Updated Regularly • 1 Map of Crop & Pasture Areas produced and updated regularly.
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			• 2 Models of Climate Parameters Produced and Updated annually (Drought, Seasonal Outlook) • 2 Models of Data Produced and Updated Regularly (Rainfall Forecasts & Temp Forecasts) • 1 Set of Health & Nutrition Advisory Messages prepared to be used with Weather/Climate Products. • 1 Set of Crop & Pasture Advisory Messages prepared to be used with Weather/Climate Products. • 1 Climate Atlas produced. • Models of Climate Data Produced for the Climate Atlas (Flood Risk Areas, Vegetation conditions/trends, Avalanches/mudflows Risk Areas, Land Degradation, AEZ)
1.2.1 (output 1.2) Development of ICT mechanisms for provision of tailored climate services.	Private sector will be engaged to establish a financially sustainable and integrated mechanism for direct delivery of climate information to target users via multiple channels, such as SMS, radio, and Voice Response Tree available 24/7.	• Development of needs assessment. • Scoping and identification of private sector partners. • Establishment of collaboration with relevant partners. • Development of relevant mechanisms, including used manuals and SOPs.	• Contractual agreements with TV/Radio service providers developed and signed. • Contractual agreements with the information service provider (Hydromet) developed and signed clearly defining all the customized regular information needs. • National Content Development Committee established that will coordinate processes and efforts amongst players in ICT based agricultural extension and advisory - that includes developing content for Radio and ICTs. • Pilot TV/Radio information broadcast of customized climate information initiated in one target district. • Pilot TV/Radio information broadcast of customized climate information expanded. • Contractual agreements with the information service provider (i.e. Hydromet) developed and signed clearly defining provision of customized SMS and IVR-Tree call centre information needs.

			- Contractual agreements with a service provider (i.e. T-Cell) on the development of SMS and IVR-Tree developed and signed. - Suitable IVR-Tree flow chart developed and adapted. - Pilot SMS and IVR-Tree call centre providing customized climate information services initiated in one target district. - SMS and IVR-Tree call centre providing customized climate information services expanded in all the project target districts
1.2.2 (output 1.2) Provision of climate information to farmers (radio/TV/SMS).	Information will be disseminated to the target beneficiaries according to the established communication channels.	- Training of relevant stakeholders in charge of disseminating the climate information through the relevant channels carried out. - Establishment of channels of information and dissemination of information. - Community awareness raising activities	- Scoping studies conducted by WFP staff to understand how the local community members are able to interpret, derive useful information, while taking necessary mitigating action(s) after receiving customized weather and climate information. - Push-and-pull climate advisory services established, with critical components such as content development, content packaging, delivery channels - integrated with feedback mechanisms. - Forums identified for community training sessions – this includes one-day workshops targeting farmers groups, women's groups and religious centres. - Mediums identified for community awareness creation – this includes printing of flyers and user-guidelines for sharing with local communities within information centres/boards, where community members gather to socialize. - Curriculum and flyers developed for community awareness and training. - One-day workshops organized every year (starting Year 2, except for the piloting, that will start in Year 1) in all the target districts.

			• 112,000 people receiving climate information
1.3.1 (output 1.3) Development of relevant PICSA Training of Trainers manuals and materials, tailored on the Tajikistan context by the University of Reading.	PICSA staff from the University of Reading will support WFP and the other stakeholders in developing relevant training manuals and procedures to carry out the approach.	• Contracting of the University of Reading through WFP LTA. • Relevant travel to the country by staff from the University. • Stakeholder meetings to refine the PICSA model to the Tajikistan context. • Training of Trainers manual developed.	• At least 1 Training manual on interpretation of data, effects on livelihoods and resilience building. • Training of Trainers (ToT) for 25 technical officers of the CEP, Ministry of Agriculture, the Agency of Forestry as well as the Agency for Land Reclamation and Irrigation. • Training to 50 focal points of local authorities and experts, communities, leaders, and other relevant stakeholders involved in implementation of the PICSA approach. • At least 1 Training report. • Number of ToTs and Focal Points trained on PICSA.
1.3.2 (Output 1.3) Training of Trainers (local NGOS, District Government Officials, and selected community members) to allow for the roll out of the PICSA approach in all target districts.	Through the training of local trainers, communities will be supported to access and understand relevant climate information and advisories to support on-farm decision such as crop selection, water management, and how to act ahead of extreme events.	• Identification of Trainers through consultation with Government, NGOs, and communities. • Carrying out of training for district officers, NGO staff and selected community members. • Development of training reports.	• At least 200 key community members trained (village heads, farmer association chairs) (ToT). • Annual reports on ToT carried out developed. • 200 key community members identified as trainees through consultative meetings with key community members ensuring inclusivity of farm and pastoral communities as well as gender parity. • Listing-out of resources required for rolling-out community participatory meetings (e.g., transportation, stationery, meeting facilities, etc.), timelines and budgets that will ensure at least 112,000 farmers/pastoralists (58,000 women and 54,000 men) have benefitted from using climate information to inform their livelihood decisions by the end of the project.

1.4.1 (output 1.4) Community awareness raising training on climate risk management measures, climate advisories, health and nutrition risks.	Sessions for behavioural change and awareness for nutrition, feeding practices and health impacts of climate change will be carried out at community level. This will complement training on climate information.	• Development of training materials (posters/theatrical shows, leaflets) • Identification of beneficiaries through community consultations. • Roll out of training activities. • Training reports.	• Scoping studies carried out on current food security, nutrition, and health situations linked to the impacts of climate change. • Assessments done on current behaviours related to IYCF and WASH. • SBCC intervention strategy designed. • An implementation work plan developed with PHC staff and communities' focal points. • At least 1 Training manual • Training of Trainers (ToTs) for selected Primary Health Care (PHC) staff on SBCC. • Training for identified community focal points and volunteers. • Community sessions for 116,000 beneficiaries (60,000 women and 56,000 men) by community focal points and volunteers assisted by PHC and guided by WFP staff. • At least 1 Training report. • 1 Final report on community training on climate risks on health and nutrition
1.5.1 (output 1.5) Exchange visits from adjacent communities, lessons learned and awareness raising.	The first action to increase awareness, develop and share knowledge will consist of sharing experiences across beneficiaries and developing relevant publications on the subject. Knowledge will be generated through participatory approaches to share lessons at community level and identify best practices.	• Identification of target beneficiaries for the exchange visits. • Carrying out exchange visits through participatory approaches.	• Up to 25 exchange visits organized

1.5.2 (output 1.5) Dissemination of publications on lessons learnt and best practices.	Best practices reports will be developed from beneficiaries' experience and exchange visits while engagement with media will be fostered.	- Hiring of communication consultant. - Development of lessons learned documents. - Dissemination of best practices through media and booklets. - Production of TV and radio advertisements.	- Up to 20 media project-related reports generated. 2 Best Practices/Lessons learned reports developed. 15,000 booklets/publications produced.
1.5.3 (output 1.5) National conference to inform policy development based on lessons learnt.	The lessons learned collected will be translated into actionable points for government stakeholders.	- Identification of relevant government stakeholders for the organization of the national workshop. - Set up of national workshop. - Development of national level action points.	At least one national conference organized for evidence-based policy development to inform national level policies.
1.6.1 (output 1.6) Review of district plans with local authorities.	Where existing, the Climate Change Adaptation component within the 2016-2020 District Plans will be analysed and gaps identified.	- Hiring of local consultant. - Desk review of existing district plans.	(to be carried out under activity 1.6.2)
1.6.2 (output 1.6) Development of 11 district level plans integrating climate change adaptation.	District Plans for 2026-2030, developed by local authorities with participation of resident women and men, will include a contextualized and needs-based Climate Change Adaptation component based on an Integrated Watershed/Catchment Management Approach.	- Hiring of local consultant. - Identification of target stakeholders. - Assisting district level authorities in adopting a participatory approach. - Identification of priorities for inclusion into district plans.	Up to 11 District Plans (2026-2030) include a Climate Change Adaptation component

		Inclusion of priorities into district plans.	
2.1.1 (output 2.1) Establishment of orchards and other agroforestry activities for soil/water conservation and food production covering an area of 600 ha across 185 villages.	Establishment of soil and water conservation activities as well as livelihood enhancement through tree planting (forestry and agroforestry).	- Participatory planning to identify exact location of activities. - Technical specifications identification and procurement of relevant seeds and other non-food items for tree planting. - Contracting of NGO partner/collaboration with Government at local level. - Implementation of activities.	- Up to 400 Ha of orchards using drought and flood resistant seeds and saplings established. - Natural fences installed to protect 400 Ha of land. - Up to 23,700 men and women benefitting from orchards and agroforestry. 200 ha of agroforestry established in targeted districts. - Chain-link fence is established to protect at least 300 Ha of newly established Orchards (Please, refer to FP067 Inception Report pp.58 for more information.
2.1.2 (output 2.1) Capacity building to women groups on livelihood activities related to agroforestry and agriculture (fruit/vegetable storage/drying, processing, and marketing).		- Participatory planning to identify target groups of women and their membership. - Development of training modules. - Contracting of partners to carry out the training. - Carry out the training.	40 women group received training on drying fruits, vegetables and herbs, processing, and marketing activities

2.2.1 (output 2.2) Rehabilitation and/or replacement of drinking water supply system (pipelines, water tanks, solar water pumps).	Replacement of pipelines, rehabilitation of water tanks and installation of solar water pumps will be undertaken to support access to clean drinking water, particularly important as temperatures increase and sanitation becomes more critical.	• Participatory planning to identify exact location of activities and beneficiaries. • Technical specifications identification and procurement of relevant items for activities. • Contracting of NGO partner/collaboration with Government at local level. • Implementation of activities.	• 50 villages supported with replacement of obsolete pipeline, water tanks and solar water pumps. • Up to 31,600 men and women have access to clean drinking water
2.2.2 (output 2.2) Rehabilitation of irrigation systems (canal cleaning, pipeline rehabilitation/installation, drip irrigation).	Irrigation canal work and installation of drip irrigation will also be undertaken to support villages facing water scarcity during hot summer months. When relevant, this activity will be complemented by efforts described under 2.1.	• Participatory planning to identify exact location of activities and beneficiaries. • Technical specifications identification and procurement of relevant items for activities. • Contracting of NGO partner/collaboration with Government at local level. • Implementation of activities.	• Up to 200 km of irrigation canals cleaned benefitting 1,400 people receiving cash transfers and 7,000 people benefitting through enhanced soil fertility as result of improved irrigation systems Up to 300 Ha of land will be irrigated using drop irrigation systems. • 3,100 men and women benefitting from drip irrigation
2.3.1 (output 2.3) Installation of up to 112 climate-proof storage facilities and training	This activity will develop assets (storage facilities) and provide training for their utilization.	• Participatory planning to identify exact location of activities and beneficiaries. • Technical specifications identification and procurement of relevant items for activities.	• Up to 112 storage facilities will be developed or rehabilitated benefitting 1,301 people receiving cash transfers and 6,505 benefiting from climate-proof storage facilities.

		- Contracting of NGO partner/collaboration with Government at local level. - Implementation of activities.	
2.3.2 (output 2.3) Installation of 400 polycarbonate climate-proof greenhouses with solar panels in 64 villages and training.	This activity will develop assets (polycarbonate climate-proof greenhouses) and provide training for their utilization.	- Participatory planning to identify exact location of activities and beneficiaries. - Technical specifications identification and procurement of relevant items for activities. - Contracting of NGO partner/collaboration with Government at local level. - Implementation of activities.	Up to 400 polycarbonate climate-proof greenhouses will be built benefitting 2,000 people. (Activities 2.3.2, 2.3.3 and 2.3.4 are bundled together to reach the same 2,000 beneficiaries.
2.3.3 (output 2.3) Provision of 400 solar fruit dryers and training	This activity will develop assets (solar dryers) and provide training for their utilization.	- Participatory planning to identify exact location of activities and beneficiaries. - Technical specifications identification and procurement of relevant items for activities. - Contracting of NGO partner/collaboration with Government at local level. - Implementation of activities.	Procurement and delivery of 400 solar fruit dryers to benefit 2000 people including 40 women groups envisaged under activity 2.1.2. Training on use and maintenance is also provided.
2.3.4 (output 2.3) Installation of 400 Solar cookers and	This activity will procure and deliver assets (solar cookers) and provide training for their utilization	Participatory planning to identify exact location of activities and beneficiaries.	Up to 400 solar cookers installed benefitting 2000 people. (Solar Cookers are envisaged to be used in bundle with greenhouses and solar fruit dryers. For this reason, the number of beneficiaries is envisaged

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training.		• Technical specifications identification and procurement of relevant items for activities. • Contracting of NGO partner/collaboration with Government at local level. • Implementation of activities.	to be 2000. These 2000 people are the same 2000 people under activity 2.3.2, 2.3.3, 2.3.4.
2.4.1 (output 2.4) Provision of market information including market locations, demand for commodities, prices etc. to 500 Dehkan Farms.	A system to provide market information will be established to support better decision making and negotiating capacities of farmers.	• Identification of target beneficiaries (Dekhan Smallholder Farms). • Procurement of technical services. • Development of market information system.	• A system facilitating access to local market prices will be developed.
2.4.2 (output 2.4) Training of 500 Dehkan (smallholder) Farms and information sharing to better link local production with markets and supply chain.	Smallholder farmers will be better linked to markets and supply chains to increase their incomes and savings to increase their ability to cope with shocks. This activity will be linked with local procurement for school meals and also complement other activities in the project such as climate services and better storage facilities.	• Training of target farmers. • Linkages with markets, including WFP school meals activities.	• Training of 500 Dekhan (smallholder) Farms will be undertaken.

Source: Terms of Reference for the Final Evaluation, GCF-funded Project WFP Tajikistan Country Office, July 2024, Annex 6

Key assumptions

input – output	Assumptions output – outcome	outcome – impact
• Proactive engagement from government stakeholders. • Availability of financial and human resources • Adequate funding, technical resources, and capacity-building activities are delivered on time and are aligned with project goals. • Availability and capacity of partners for implementation of project activities. • No major environmental disruptions (e.g., natural disasters) that could derail infrastructure projects or training initiatives. • Continued political support to the project approach and interventions. • Availability and capacity of Financial Service providers to implement CBTs. • Nation and subnational policies and regulation in Tajikistan support the land management and investment in water infrastructure, irrigation and agriculture (e.g., Decrees of District authorities for orchards, irrigation, etc.).	• National commitment to strengthen policies and practices in terms of climate information and to integrate climate adaptation strategies into planning processes and to monitor implementation. • Steering Committee bringing together ministries and national institutions is established and supports the implementation of climate change measures, livelihood investments and asset creation. • Institutions and farmers remain open to and are willing/available to participate/attend Capacity strengthening initiatives. • Levels of political stability that do not deteriorate - no national disasters or other types of disruption. • The farmers have basic knowledge on how to maintain/run their assets to improve crop production.	• Climate shocks do not significantly disrupt the progress made through improved livelihoods and resilience-building measures. • The national and regional economies remain stable enough to support market linkages and income growth. • Access to markets and local/regional value chains is uninterrupted and continuously enhanced. • Reduced risks of specific shocks and stressors that tend to disproportionately affect the most vulnerable, women, adolescent girls, and children.

Source: Evaluation Team

Annex 7. Field mission schedule and key informants interviewed

Monday 7 April - Dushanbe		Position
9:00-9:45AM	In-country briefing - WFP CO	Program Policy Officer, CCARB (GCF Project Manager) Evaluation Officer Head of the Research, Assessment and Monitoring (RAM) Unit Programme Associate (Climate Services) Programme Assistant (CCARB) Irrigation Expert Agronomist
10:15 AM-11:15AM	Meeting with the Ministry of Agriculture	Chief Specialist of the Crop Production Department
14:30-15:30	Interview with the Project Team	Program Policy Officer, CCARB (GCF Project Manager)
Tuesday 8 April - Dushanbe		
9:00AM-10:00AM	Meeting with the Forestry Agency	Chief Specialist
13:00 PM-14:00 PM	Meeting with the Committee of Emergency Situations and Civil Defence	Colonel

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(preparation for trip to Fyzobod)		
Wednesday 9 April - field mission to Fyzobod		
9.30 am	Meeting with district authority	Chairman of Fayzobod district
10.30 AM	Meeting with Jamoat authorities	Chairmen of Bahor and Mehrobod jamoat
1.30 pm	FGD 1 – PISCA district level trainers) Fayzobod (TOT participants)	17 trainers
3.30 pm	FGD 2 – Meeting with the Dehkan farms/ farmers - Jamoat Buston- CBT	13 participants
	Meeting with women project beneficiaries Jamoat Javonon	16 participants
5:00 PM	Field Mission to Garm	
Thursday - 10 April - field Mission -Rasht (Garm)		
8.30 am	Meeting with the WFP FO	Programme Policy Officer/Head of Gharm Field Office Programme Assistant, Gharm Field Office (CCARB)
10:00 AM	Meeting with district authorities	First Deputy of Chirman of Rasht district
11:00 AM	Meeting with Jamoat authorities	Chairmen of Navdi jamoat
12.30 pm	Meeting with women project beneficiaries - Jamoat Navdi, Village Navdi women -CBT	14 participants
14:00	FGD 1 - - irrigation /forestry activities beneficiaries - Jamoat Navdi- Drinking Water Supply System	13 participants

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15:30	KII - Meeting with local NGO - MD Garm	Director of NGO
16:30	Travelling back to Dushanbe	
Friday - 11 April - Dushanbe		
10:00 AM-11:00AM	Committee for Environmental Protection	Head of Project implementation unit
11:00AM - 12:00AM	Meeting with Hyrdomet	Deputy Director of the Agency for Hydrometeorology
12:00PM	Debrief ET	
13:30PM -14:30PM	Debriefing with the Project teamp, next steps	Program Policy Officer, CCARB (GCF Project Manager) Evaluation Officer Head of the Research, Assessment and Monitoring (RAM) Unit Programme Associate (Climate Services) Programme Assistant (CCARB Irrigation Expert Agronomist
15:00PM	Debriefing with HoP and Project teamp	Program Policy Officer, CCARB (GCF Project Manager) Evaluation Officer

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Group 1.

Enumerator 1 *Abduvali Nabizoda*
(Male)

Enumerator 2 *Shamsiddinova Shamsiya*
(Female)

Target region – DRS and Khatlon

Date	Day	Time	Region	District	Jamoat/Village	Activity	Number of FGD participants
08.04.2025	Arriving to Dushanbe						
09.04.2025 - 10.04.2025	Day 1-2	08:00	Travelling from Dushanbe to DRS				
11.04.2025	Day 3	09:00	DRS	Garm (Rasht)	Garm	FGD with non beneficiaries	11
		11:00			Garm	FGD with the TOT participants (trainers)	10
		13:30			Navdi	FGD with beneficiaries- with the community asset owners -Rehabilitation and cleaning of irrigation channels-Nazirov Mahmadzokir	9
		15:00			Navdi	KII with the asset owner- greenhouse- Navdi village-	

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		16:30			Navdi	KII with the asset owner- fruit dryer- Navdi vilage -	
12.04.2025	Day 4	09:00			Garm	KII with the asset owner- orchard- Garm- Rachabov Faruhruz	
		13:00			Yasmand	FGD with beneficiaries with the community asset owners- Rehabilitation and cleaning of irrigation channels-Rizoev Mahmadkarim	20
		14:30			Yasmand	FGD with beneficiaries with the PISCA training participants - farmers	11
		16:00			Yasmand	FGD with beneficiaries - CBT	13
		17:00	Travelling to Tojikobod				
13.04.2025	Day 5	09:00		Tojikobod		Travelling to Langari Shoh village	
		11:00			Langari Shoh	FGD with beneficiaries- with the community asset owners Drinking Water Supply System (DWSS)-	12 persons
		13:00			Langari Shoh	FGD with beneficiaries with the community asset owners- Rehabilitation and cleaning of irrigation channels-	10 persons
		14:30			Langari Shoh	KII with asset owner-solar cooker- -Langari Shoh jamoat	
		15:30			Langari Shoh	KII with asset owner- greenhouse- -Langari Shoh jamoat	

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		15:30			Langari Shoh	KII with asset owner- orchard --Langari Shoh jamoat	
14.04.2025	Day 7	09:00			Tojikobod	Interview with district authoritiesp Deputy Head of the Tojikobod District for Property Affairs -Deputy Head of the Tojikobod District for Economic Development	
		10:30			Tojikobod	Interview with local NGO Langari Shoh- Director of NGO Langari Shoh	
		13:00			Nushor	FGD with beneficiaries - CBT	9 persons
		14:30			Nushor	FGD with beneficiaries PISCA training participants (farmers)	6
		16:00			Nushor	FGD with beneficiaries with PISCA TOT participant (trainers) and district level facalitators	9
15.04.2025	Day 8	08:00	Travelling to Jirgatal				
		09:00		Jirgatal (Lakhsh)	Jirgatal	Interview with district authorities Deputy Head of Lakhsh District	
		11:00			Jirgatal	Interview with local NGO Ehyoi Hoit - Chief Engineer	

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						NGO Ehyoi Hoit - Agronomist NGO Ehyoi Hoit - Financial specialist	
		13:00			Pildon	FGD with beneficiaries with the community asset owners- Community storage-Jamolodin Zoirov (number of assets beneficiaries?)	8
		16:00			Navruz	FGD with beneficiaries with the community asset owners- Rehabilitation and cleaning of irrigation channels	10
16.04.2025	Day 9	09:00			Navruz	KII with asset owner-fruit dryer- -jamoat Navruz	
		10:00			Navruz	KII with asset owner- greenhouse -jamoat Navruz	
		11:00			Navruz	KII with asset owner- orchard with the drip irrigation system-Saifiddionov Khisrav-Lakhsh	
		13:30	Travelling to Nurobod				
17.04.2025	Day 10	08:00		Nurobod	Nurobod	Interview with district authorities Deputy Head of the Nurobod District for Agriculture	
		09:00			Khumdon	FGD with beneficiaries- with the community asset owners Drinking Water Supply System (DWSS)-	8 persons
		11:00			Khumdon	FGD with beneficiaries - CBT	11
		14:30			Khumdon	KII with asset owner- drip irrigation-	

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		15:30			Khumdon	KII with asset owner- greenhouse-	
					Nurobod	FGD with beneficiaries with PISCA TOT participant (trainers) and district level facilitators	7 persons
18.04.2025	Day 11	09:00			Mujikharf	FGD with beneficiaries with the community asset owners- Community storage- Mijikharf village	6 persons
		11:00			Mujikharf	FGD with beneficiaries with the community asset owners- Rehabilitation and cleaning of irrigation channels-	25 persons
		13:00			Mujikharf	FGD with beneficiaries with the PISCA training participants (farmers)	6
		15:30			Mujikharf	KII with asset owner- fruit dryer-	
						Travelling to Fayzobod	
19.04.2024	Day 12	08:00				Travelling to Fayzobod	
		13:00			Fayzobod	FGD with beneficiaries- CBT	7
		14:30			Mehrobod	FGD with beneficiaries with the PISCA training participants (farmers)	11
		16:00			Vashgird	FGD with beneficiaries - CBT	8

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20.04.2025		09:00			Vashgird	KII with asset owner- orchard-	
		11:00			Vashgird	KII with asset owner- solar cooker-	
		13:00			Faizobod	KII with asset owner- fruit dryer-	
		15:00		Travelling to Khovaling (no direct way, that why coming back to Dushanbe)			
20.04.2025	Day 15.	15:00		Travelling to Khovaling from Dushanbe			
21.04.2025		09:00	Khatlon	Khovaling	Khovaling	Interview with the district authorities Head of Khovaling District	
					Khovaling	Interview with NGO Bonu director NGO Bonu agronomist	
		10:30			Jombakht	FGD with beneficiaries- with the community asset owners Drinking Water Supply System (DWSS)- community asset beneficiaries-Village Gulzor - focal point name is missing?	15
		12:00			Jombakht	FGD with beneficiaries -CBT-village Gulzor	9
21.04.2025	Day 16.	14:00			Sari-Osiyob	FGD with beneficiaries with the PISCA training participants (farmers)-Sari osiyob village	10

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		15:30			Sari-Osiyob	FGD with beneficiaries- Rehabilitation and cleaning of irrigation channels-asstest beneficiaries - no focal point name in data base	8
22.04.2025		08:30			Khovaling	FGD with beneficiaries with PISCA TOT participant (trainers) and district level facalitators-Khovaling	6
		10:30			Jombakht	KII with asset owner- orchard with the drip irrigation system-Rachabova Niginamo-Jombakht jamoat	
		11:30			Sari-Osiyob	KII with asset owner-Reinforced arched greenhouse-Sari osiyob jamoat, village Tokaki	
22.04.2025	Day 17.	13:30			Jombakht	KII with asset owner- fruit dryer-Saidova Zahro-Jombakht	
		16:00		Travelling to Muminobod			
23.04.2025	Day 18	09:00		Muminobod	Muminobod	Interview with the district authorities - Head of the Agriculture Department of Muminobod district	

		10:00			Muminobod	Interview with local NGO Binokor NGO Binokor director NGO Binokor agronomist NGO Binokor engineer	
		13:30			Muminobod	FGD with non beneficiaries	10
		14:30			N.Nazarov	KII with asset owner- orchard-Safarova Kholisamoh-Dehlola village	
		15:30			N.Nazarov	KII with asset owner-Reinforced arched greenhouse-Dehlolo village	
		16:00			N.Nazarov	KII with asset owner- solar cooker-Valieva Sayora	
24.04.2025	Day 19	08:30			N.Nazarov	FGD with beneficiaries- with the community asset owners Drinking Water Supply System (DWSS)	11
		10:00			N.Nazarov	FGD with beneficiaries with the community asset owners- Community storage- Dehlola village	9
		11:20			Muminobod	FGD with beneficiaries with PISCA TOT participant (trainers) and district level facalitators	8

24.04.2025	Day 20	14:00			Dehibaland	FGD with beneficiaries with the community asset owners- Rehabilitation and cleaning of irrigation channels	14
		15:20			Dehibaland	FGD with beneficiaries- CBT	10
24.04.2025	Day 21	16:30		Travelling to Dushanbe			

GROUP 2

Enumerator 1 (Male): Gufronjon Ayubjonov

Enumerator 2 (Female): Takhmina Abdusalomzod

Target region – GBAO

Date	Day	Time	District	Jamoat/Vilage	Activities	Number of FGD participants
08.04.2025-09.04.2025	Day 1-2	08:00	Travelling from Dushanbe to DRS- Joining In country Mission with Veronika and Tahmina			
11.04.2024	Day 3	Travelling to Rushon				
12.04.2025	Day 4.	08:30	Rushon	Center -Vamar	Interview with district authorities Former first deputy chairman of Rushon district	

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					Senior specialist of CEP in Rushon	
		15:00		Savnob/Gudara	FGD with beneficiaries - with the community asset owners-Agroforestry	9
		16:30		Savnob/Savnob	FGD with beneficiaries - with the community asset owners-Drinking Water Supply System (DWSS)	10
13.04.2025	Day 5.	09:00		Bartang/Siponj	FGD with beneficiaries - with the community asset owners-community storage	10
		10:30		Bartang/Siponj	KII with asset owner- fruit dryer	
		01:00		Bartang/Siponj	FGD with beneficiaries PISCA training participants (farmers)	8
		14:30		Bartang/Dasht	FGD with beneficiaries -- with the community asset owners--Rehabilitation and cleaning of irrigation channels	11
		16:00		Bartang/Dasht	KII with asset owner-orchard with drip irrigation system	
14.04.2025	Day 6	09:00		Center - Vamar	KII with asset owner- greenhouse	
		11:00		Center - Rushan/Vamar	FGD with beneficiaries with PICSA TOT participant (trainers) and district level	4

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					facilitators	
		13:00		Rushan/ Pastkhuf jamoat	FGD with non beneficiaries	11
			Travelling to Shugnon			
		15:00	Shugnon	Porshinev (Shrinjonov)/CHoshkandez	KII with asset owner- fruit dryer	
15.04.2025	Day 7.	09:00	Shugnon	Shugnon	Interview with district authorities	
		11:00		Porshinev (Shrinjonov)/Buved	KII with asset owner- greenhouse	
		13:00		Shugnon/Porshinev	FGD with beneficiaries with PICSA TOT participant (trainers) and district level facilitators	3
		14:30		Porshinev (Shrinjonov)/ Pahor	KII with asset owner- solar cooker	
		16:00		Porshinev (Shrinjonov)/Pahor	FGD with beneficiaries - with the community asset owners-community storage	12
16.05.2025	Day 8	11:00		Ver/ Rozhak	FGD with beneficiaries - with the community asset owners-Agroforestry	11
		14:30		Vankala/ Varshez	FGD with beneficiaries - with the community asset owners-Drinking Water Supply System (DWSS)	12

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		16:00		Vankala/ Varshez	FGD with beneficiaries PISCA training participants (farmers)	9
17.04.2025	Day 9	09:00		Navobod/Navobod	FGD with beneficiaries - with the community asset owners-Drinking Water Supply System (DWSS)	10
		11:00		Navobod/Mun	FGD with beneficiaries - with the community asset owners-community storage	6
		15:00		Suchon/Bogev	FGD with beneficiaries - with the community asset owners-community storage	8
18.04.2025	Day 10	09:00		Suchon/Rozh	FGD with beneficiaries - with the community asset owners-Drinking Water Supply System (DWSS)	18
		13:30		Porshinev (Shrinjonov)/Tishor	FGD with beneficiaries - with the community asset owners-Drinking Water Supply System (DWSS)	9
		14:00		Porshinev (Shrinjonov)/ Tishor	FGD with beneficiaries-CBT	9
			Travelling to Roshtqala			
20.04.2025	Day 11	08:30	Roshtqala		Travelling to Roshkala	
		10:00			Interview with district authorities	

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					Deputy chairman on social issues of Roshtqala district Director agency for housing and real estate of Roshtqala district Head of economic and social department of Roshtqala district	
		14:30		Segd/Segd	FGD with beneficiaries PICSA training participants (farmers)	10
		15:30		Segd/Shoshbuvad	FGD with beneficiaries - with the community asset owners-community storage	9
		18:00		Segd/Shoshbuvad	FGD with beneficiaries-CBT	12
		10:30		Barvoz/Chandin	FGD with beneficiaries - with the community asset owners-Drinking Water Supply System (DWSS)	9
		13:00		Barvoz/Bidizi bolo	FGD with beneficiaries - with the community asset owners-community storage	11
21.04.2025	Day 12	15:00		Gadoallev	FGD with beneficiaries - with the community asset owners - Rehabilitation and cleaning of irrigation channels	7

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22.04.2025	Day 13	09:00		Gadoallev	FGD with beneficiaries-CBT	12
		11:00		Gadoallev/ Shod	KII with asset owner-fruit dryer	
		13:00		Gadoallev/ Khidorjev	KII with asset owner- greenhouse	
		14:00		Gadoallev/ Khabost	KII with asset owner- orchard	
23.04.2025	Day 14	08:00	Travelling to Ishkashim			
		11:00	Ishkashim	Ishkoshim	Interview with the district authorities First deputy of head of Ishkoshim	
		16:00		Zong /Langar	KII with asset owner- solar cooker	
24.04.2025	Day 15	09:00		Zong/Hisor	KII with asset owner- fruit dryer	
		10:30		Zong/Hisor	KII with asset owner- greenhouse	
		13:00		Zong	FGD with beneficiaries PICSA training participants (farmers)	8
		15:00		Zong/Zugvand	FGD with beneficiaries - with the community asset owners-community storage	14
		17:00		Ptup/Zumudg	FGD with beneficiaries - with the community asset owners-community storage	13

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25.04.2025	Day 16	11:00		Ishkoshim/Apkharv	FGD with beneficiaries -- with the community asset owners--Agroforestry	5
		01:00		Kozideh/Kozidekh	FGD with beneficiaries -- with the community asset owners--Agroforestry	8
		15:00		Androb/ Dasht	FGD with beneficiaries -- with the community asset owners--Rehabilitation and cleaning of irrigation channels	15
26.03.2025	Day 17	Travelling back to Dushanbe				

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Annex 9. Mid-term review findings, conclusions and recommendations

Evaluation Criteria	Key findings
Relevance	The GCF Project was implemented in line with the original project designing and components. Furthermore, the project is quite and appropriately relevant in strengthening the adaptive capacity of the communities impacted by shocks to climate-induced risks through enhanced capacity on early warning, weather forecasting, resilient livelihoods, and strengthening community efforts to prepare and respond to climate-induced disasters. Again, there was a clear and sound theory of change and the project components and activities within the outputs were quite relevant and critical to the national policies, strategies, and frameworks. Furthermore, the last mile interventions also addressed to the priority needs of the target project beneficiaries at the community levels. However, during the project roll out phase it has been assessed that various community-based interventions were undertaken in a standalone manner rather than considering an integrated and coordinated approach of each intervention to complement to the other.
Appropriateness	The GCF Project objectives and components are in line with the national policies, plans, and frameworks and the project was designed and relevant to the national priorities and addressing critical needs of the target population contributing towards enhancing food and nutrition security and supporting climate adaptive/smart interventions. However, the scattered and isolated nature of the project implementations has limited the opportunities for convergence of interventions that can contribute towards community resilience building against shocks and crisis.
Coherence	The GCF Project's approaches have been developed coherently and adequately for livelihood diversification and capacity strengthening. There was a sound Theory of Change (ToC) that demonstrated effective programming designing and implementations mostly at the community levels. However, there is a strong need for partnership and development of M&E tools for alignment with national systems.

Efficiency

The project has sound financial mechanisms with a dedicated budget line within the Country Office. Regular monitoring of the financial expenditures is being done both by the programme unit and the finance unit against the set financial allocation for each activity within the two project components. Out of a total amount of USD 9,273,585.93 budget allocation for the entire project period (to be disbursed in 04 tranches), an amount of USD 4,814,738.92 has been received and disbursed until the Mid-Term review period. An amount of USD 360,471.80 has remained unspent with remaining two tranches to be disbursed and spent by the end of the project period. Furthermore, project has the appropriate financial control mechanisms that allow management to make informed decisions regarding the budget and allow for timely flow of funds. Moreover, there are in-kind co-financing contributions provided for the project implementation both by the AE and implementing agency through technical assistance including project supervision, monitoring, and overseeing the project roll out in line with the co-financing terms and conditions as mentioned in the FAA. However, delay in project start up and implementation due to both internal and external factors including late project initiation, COVID-19 lockdown, the project needs to beef up its expenditure within the rest project period that will enable in spending almost additional 5 million before the project closure phase. Additionally, the limited numbers of Cooperating Partners with desired expertise has limited the opportunity for hiring additional partners to expedite the project implementations. The project also needs to focus on expediting the output:1 implementations that will support implementation of a number of sub-components under the component:2. As the project has a component of awareness creation among the project beneficiaries, it is found that there is a behavioural change among the project beneficiaries and have improved climate adaptability and integrated climate resilience knowledge which is a continuous process and will be improved further during rest of the project implementation period.

Effectiveness

The GCF Project implementation needs to undertake ownership approach to facilitate national ministries and local authorities owning the whole process including overseeing, guidance and linking it to address the critical lifesaving and climatic risks for the project communities.

Gender Equity

The GCF project designing aims at gender sensitive and gender inclusive approach in order to enable equal rights and capacity strengthening of women through engagement in diversified livelihoods and resilience building. However, while most of the project implementations are undertaken, especially activities including community drinking water facilities, irrigation canals involving women through engaging them, they are not involved in the whole project planning, implementation, monitoring and decision making aspects and this role has been overtaken by men in the communities that lead to women playing more of a passive rather than proactive role in whole community development process and

the interventions are undertaken not fully taking into consideration gender-sensitive approaches.

Ownership and Sustainability

While the GCF project has contributed towards substantial awareness generation along with various capacity building initiatives and with strengthening the knowledge, attitude and practice (KAP) and has created an enabling environment, the project has yet to create ownership at the national to local level that will ensure sustainability of the interventions.

Innovation, Replication and Scalability

While the GCF project has bought in innovative solution to address climate smart, risk information and resilient livelihoods interventions, there is limited evidence of replicability and scalability of project interventions that needs to be addressed during the rest project period. This can be addressed through advocacy at district and national level to ensure programme upscaling and replicability of the good practices and lessons learnt along with knowledge management products with wider dissemination of the results. Furthermore, coordination and collaboration with other stakeholders including UN agencies, donors, IFIs needs to be undertaken to ensure upscaling of successful interventions that can ensure sustainability of various interventions undertaken under the GCF funded project. The project should also make efforts to create community savings and credit mechanisms that will enable in scaling up of successful project interventions through community contributions. Furthermore, efforts need to be undertaken to widely disseminate various successful interventions that can create an enabling environment among various stakeholders for replication of the same along with policy advocacy at national levels.

Overview of MTR Recommendations and the extent to which they were followed up on in the second phase of project implementation

MTR recommendation	Findings of the Final evaluation re. follow up on the recommendation
Recommendation 1: Revamping strategy to strengthen the coordination mechanisms through inter-ministerial coordination and inter-agency (UN) coordination for contribution towards a holistic, inter-linked and integrated climate resilience agenda in the current project that will provide platform for better synergy and coordinated interventions.	This recommendation was only partially addressed. While some coordination efforts were observed, a comprehensive inter-ministerial and inter-agency coordination mechanism was not fully established or operationalized during the final stages of the project.
Recommendation 2: Review of the project ownership strategy by the national ministries and the executive agency along with other relevant ministries for better	This recommendation was only partially addressed. While there was engagement with national stakeholders, a clear and coordinated ownership strategy involving the relevant

MTR recommendation	Findings of the Final evaluation re. follow up on the recommendation
system strengthening that will enable in sustainability, scalability and replicability of the current interventions.	ministries was not fully developed or institutionalized, limiting the project's potential for sustained impact and future scale-up.
Recommendation 3: Community-based interventions should be given priority over individual centric project activities that will enable ownership, wider involvement and opportunity for scalability and replication.	This recommendation was mostly addressed. The project invested in community-based approaches through the establishment of community maintenance mechanisms and collective asset management structures, which contributed to enhanced ownership and laid the groundwork for potential scalability and replication.
Recommendation 4: Flexibility in project realignment due to change of contexts and priorities over the project implementing period in order to ensure need based and demand driven approach against supply driven interventions.	This recommendation was partially addressed. The project demonstrated some flexibility through adjustments to activity sequencing, delivery mechanisms, and budget allocations in response to contextual shifts. However, rigid donor procedures and fixed implementation arrangements limited the extent to which the project could fully adopt a demand-driven approach.
Recommendation 5: Evidence generation to influence development priorities with emphasis on development and realignment of climate change agenda from the current project implementation.	This recommendation was only partially addressed. While the project generated technical data and monitoring outputs, the use of evidence to inform broader development priorities or to influence the national climate change agenda remained limited. Limited project level M&E capacity reduced the potential for the project to generate lessons and evidence to inform systematic uptake of project findings by policy and planning institutions.
Recommendation 6: Focus on Shock Responsive and Adaptive Social Protection to address shocks that can enable in protective, preventive, promotive and transformative intervention with greater impacts especially shock responsive/adaptive interventions. for effective resilience building and climate smart interventions.	This recommendation was not addressed. The project did not incorporate a structured approach to shock-responsive or adaptive social protection, and related interventions were not developed or integrated into the project design or implementation. As a result, the potential to strengthen resilience through systematic and scalable protective mechanisms remained unutilised.
Recommendation 7: Renewed focus on capacity building and systems strengthening for knowledge transfer through climate resilient project implementation.	This recommendation was partially addressed. The project delivered some further training and technical support; however, capacity-building efforts were not sustained throughout the project cycle, and institutional systems for

MTR recommendation	Findings of the Final evaluation re. follow up on the recommendation
	long-term knowledge retention and transfer remained limited.
Recommendation 8: Strengthening Community Feedback Mechanism and Accountability to Affected people through Leave No One Behind approaches along with adopting gender sensitive and gender inclusive interventions.	This recommendation was partially addressed. The project utilised feedback channels but these were not systematically institutionalised, and limited attention was given to the needs of other marginalised groups, such as persons with disabilities. Gender-sensitive and inclusive approaches were embedded in all components.
Recommendation 9: Innovation through strengthening local level adaptive strategy to climate change through low-cost interventions and adaptable to the knowledge and attitude of the climate impacted population.	This recommendation was mostly addressed. The project introduced several locally appropriate climate adaptation measures, including greenhouses, solar technologies, and improved water management systems. These interventions were generally well received by communities and aligned with local knowledge and practices, contributing to improved adaptive capacity at the household and community levels.
Recommendation 10: Effective communication, education, and information/data management for better adaptation to the shocks.	This recommendation was addressed. The project supported the dissemination of climate and market information through SMS platforms and digital tools such as the Telegram bot, enhancing access to timely and relevant data for farming and livelihood decisions. Training and awareness-raising activities further contributed to improved understanding of climate risks and adaptation options among targeted communities.
Recommendation 11: No Cost Extension for strengthening programme implementation strategy and consolidation including addressing priorities as per the project objectives for effective and efficient project accomplishment including convergence, mainstreaming for ensuring sustainability of all initiatives.	This recommendation was addressed. A no-cost extension was granted, allowing for the continuation of implementation activities, improved sequencing, and the consolidation of key project components. The extension supported alignment with project objectives and contributed to enhanced delivery, although systemic constraints limited the full realisation of sustainability and mainstreaming goals.

Annex 10. Rating scale

The rating scale was designed to assess the performance of the project based on GCF guidance, key evaluation criteria outlined in the ToR and further elaborated in the project matrix. The rating scale provides a structured assessment across multiple dimensions, to ensure a comprehensive evaluation of relevance, coherence, efficiency, effectiveness, sustainability, innovativeness, replicability and scalability. The ET and WFP agreed not to rate the **impact** due to the timing of the evaluation, which took place shortly after the completion of key activities, so many of the intended outcomes were still emerging.

The scale evaluates project performance using:

1. Paradigm shift dimensions - measuring scale, replicability and sustainability of project's transformative results.
2. Project implementation adaptive management - assessment of efficiency and responsiveness in implementation.
3. Relevance, sustainability and country ownership.
4. Scalability, replicability and innovation.

Each category was scored using a structured rating scale, as elaborated in the table below.

Table: Rating scale

Ratings for progress towards results: (one rating for each outcome and for the objective)	
Highly Satisfactory (HS).	The objective/outcome achieved or exceeded all its end-of-project targets, without major shortcomings. The progress towards the objective/outcome can be presented as "good practice".
Satisfactory (S)	The objective/outcome achieved most of its end-of-project targets, with only minor shortcomings.
Moderately Satisfactory (MS)	The objective/outcome achieved most of its end-of-project targets but with significant shortcomings.
Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU)	The objective/outcome achieved its end-of-project targets with major shortcomings.
Unsatisfactory (U)	The objective/outcome did not to achieve most of its end-of-project targets.
Highly Unsatisfactory (HU)	The objective/outcome failed to achieve its mid-term targets, and is not expected to achieve any of its end-of-project targets.
Ratings for relevance and country ownership (one overall rating)	
Highly Satisfactory (HS).	The project is fully integrated into national and local systems, with strong government and community leadership.

Satisfactory (S)	The project is well aligned with national priorities, but some gaps remain in full ownership.
Moderately Satisfactory (MS)	The project has moderate national ownership, with engagement but limited long-term commitment.
Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU)	The project has limited country ownership, with only partial integration into national structures.
Unsatisfactory (U)	The project is not aligned with national priorities and has weak institutional support.
Highly Unsatisfactory (HU)	The project has failed to engage national stakeholders, with no ownership beyond WFP involvement
Ratings for project implementation and adaptive management: (one overall rating)	
Highly Satisfactory (HS)	Implementation of project components – management arrangements, work planning, finance and co-finance, project- level monitoring and evaluation systems, stakeholder engagement, reporting, and communications – is leading to efficient and effective project implementation and adaptive management. The project can be presented as “good practice”.
Satisfactory (S)	Implementation of most of the project components is leading to efficient and effective project implementation and adaptive management except for only few that are subject to remedial action.
Moderately Satisfactory (MS)	Implementation of some of the project components is leading to efficient and effective project implementation and adaptive management, with some components requiring remedial action.
Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU)	Implementation of some of the project components is not leading to efficient and effective project implementation and adaptive, with most components requiring remedial action.
Unsatisfactory (U)	Implementation of most of the project components is not leading to efficient and effective project implementation and adaptive management.
Highly Unsatisfactory (HU)	Implementation of none of the project components is leading to efficient and effective project implementation and adaptive management.
Ratings for sustainability: (one overall rating)	
Likely (L)	Negligible risks to sustainability, with key outcomes on track to be achieved by the project’s closure and expected to continue into the foreseeable future
Moderately Likely (ML)	Moderate risks, but expectations that at least some outcomes will be sustained due to the progress towards results
Moderately Unlikely (MU)	Significant risk that key outcomes will not carry on after project closure, although some outputs and activities should carry on

Unlikely (U)	Severe risks that project outcomes as well as key outputs will not be sustained
Ratings for scalability and replicability (one overall rating)	
Highly Satisfactory (HS)	The project demonstrated clear pathways for expansion, with strong demand and institutional support for scale-up.
Satisfactory (S)	The project has potential for replication, but additional resources or modifications are needed.
Moderately Satisfactory (MS)	The project had moderate scalability, with some elements replicable but requiring adjustments.
Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU)	The project faced significant challenges in scaling up, with unclear pathways for expansion.
Unsatisfactory (U)	The project had little potential for replication, with major barriers to scaling.
Highly Unsatisfactory (HU)	The project is not replicable, and no elements can be effectively expanded.
Ratings for innovation (one overall rating)	
Highly Satisfactory (HS)	The project introduced transformative, scalable innovations with clear added value.
Satisfactory (S)	The project introduced some innovations, but scalability or effectiveness is still being tested.
Moderately Satisfactory (MS)	The project included some innovative elements, but they are not fully integrated or tested at scale.
Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU)	The project had limited innovative aspects, with minimal contribution to new approaches.
Unsatisfactory (U)	The project lacked innovation and has not introduced new approaches to climate adaptation.
Highly Unsatisfactory (HU)	The project was entirely conventional, with no innovative elements.

Table: Paradigm shift dimensions rating scale

Dimension	Low	Medium	High
Scale	Limited or no evidence of the project expanding beyond initial intervention targets.	Some evidence of expansion beyond planned targets, with emerging commitment from stakeholders.	Strong evidence of large-scale impact, with measurable expansion beyond the project scope.
Replicability	No evidence that the project model is being	Some evidence of the project being piloted or adapted in new	Strong evidence of replication, with multiple actors adopting

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	considered for replication in other contexts.	settings.	and adapting the project model.
Sustainability	No evidence that project benefits will continue without external funding.	Some elements of the project are likely to be sustained, but risks remain.	Clear evidence of long-term sustainability, with institutional and financial mechanisms in place.

Annex 11. Communication and knowledge management plan

When? Evaluation Phase	What? Product	To Whom? Target Audience	From whom? Creator lead	How? Communication channel	Why? Communication Purpose
Preparation	Draft ToR	Evaluation Committee	WFP Evaluation Manager	Email; ERG meeting if required	To request review of and comments on ToR
	Final ToR	Evaluation Committee WFP Management; Evaluation community; WFP employees; Evaluation Team; General public and evaluation team	WFP Evaluation Manager	Email; WFP Internal and External Websites	To inform of the final or agreed upon overall plan, purpose, scope, and timing of the evaluation
Inception	Draft inception report	Evaluation Reference Group DEQS	WFP Evaluation Manager	Email	To request review of and comments on IR
	Final inception report	Evaluation Reference Group; WFP employees; WFP evaluation cadre	WFP Evaluation Manager	Email; WFP Internal Website	To inform key stakeholders of the detailed plan for the evaluation, including critical dates and milestones, sites to be visited, stakeholders to be engaged etc.
Data Collection	Debriefing power-point	Commissioning office management and programme staff; Evaluation Reference Group	Team leader	Meeting	To invite key stakeholders to discuss preliminary findings
Reporting	Draft evaluation report	Evaluation Reference Group	WFP Evaluation Manager	Email	To invite key stakeholders to discuss the preliminary findings
	Final evaluation report	Evaluation Reference Group; WFP Tajikistan CO	WFP Evaluation Manager	Email WFP Internal	To inform key stakeholders of the final main product

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		Management; GCF and partners; Evaluation community; WFP employees; public		and External Websites	from the evaluation and make the report available publicly
Dissemination and Follow-up	Draft Management Response	Evaluation Reference Group; CO Programme staff; CO M&E staff; Senior Regional Advisor	WFP Evaluation Manager	Email	To discuss the commissioning office's actions to address the evaluation recommendations and elicit comments
	Final Management Response	Evaluation Reference Group; WFP Management; WFP employees; public	WFP Evaluation Manager	Email WFP Internal and External Websites	To ensure that all relevant staff are informed of the commitments made to taking actions and make the Management Response publically available
Dissemination and Follow-up (Associated Content)	Evaluation Brief	WFP Tajikistan CO Management; WFP employees; doors and partners; National decision makers	WFP Evaluation Management	Email	Evaluation Brief

Annex 12. Methodology

263. The evaluation applied a theory-based, mixed-methods approach, integrating both qualitative and quantitative data to assess the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, coherence, sustainability, and equity dimensions of the GCF project. This approach ensured a comprehensive understanding of the project's performance and permitted adaptation of the data collection tools in response to emerging findings and contextual changes.

264. The Evaluation Team conducted a detailed desk review of programme documentation and implemented an extensive primary data collection exercise. The ET also planned to conduct FGDs and KIIs in the three target regions of GBAO, the DRS, and Khatlon. These activities covered 30 jamoats and 68 communities. FGDs were conducted with both male and female participants, as well as with specific subgroups including households headed by women, non-beneficiaries, and ToT participants. Additionally, site visits were undertaken at 53 locations where community or household assets were supported by the project.

265. Key informants were selected using purposive sampling, based on their relevance, expertise, and level of engagement in the project. Stakeholders interviewed included WFP staff at country and field office levels, national and local government officials, cooperating partners, donors, local NGOs, and direct asset recipients. All interviews and FGDs followed semi-structured formats, using tools developed in alignment with the approved evaluation questions. Participation was voluntary, and respondents were assured of confidentiality and anonymity.

266. Quantitative data were analysed using descriptive and trend analysis, focusing on outputs, beneficiary reach, and expenditure patterns. Financial data were examined to assess disbursement rates, cost-efficiency, and alignment with planned interventions. Qualitative data were subjected to thematic and content analysis, with codes aligned to the evaluation criteria and the project's ToC. Where feasible, data were disaggregated by sex and age to assess differential impacts on specific demographic groups.

267. A light contribution analysis was also conducted to explore the extent to which the project plausibly contributed to observed changes. This analysis considered alternative explanations and contextual influences and involved tracing the causal pathways between interventions and reported outcomes. Data from FGDs, KIIs, and secondary sources were triangulated to enhance the reliability and robustness of findings. A rating scale based on GCF suggested score card, was used to assess the extent to which the project met its objectives across evaluation criteria (Annex 10).

Sampling Approach

268. A stratified purposive sampling approach was employed to ensure balanced representation across geographic areas, gender groups, stakeholder categories, and levels of vulnerability. Special considerations were invested to ensure the inclusion of women, and vulnerable groups. According to the stakeholder mapping conducted in the inception stage, eight key stakeholder groups were identified: National Government Entities, Subnational/District Government Entities, Implementing Agencies and International Organizations, Cooperating Partners and Local NGOs, Beneficiary Groups, Academic and Research Institutions, Donors and Financial Partners, Private Sector. Their inclusion in the evaluation process was prioritised based on different sampling approaches for each data collection method, as detailed in the table below.

Table12. Sampling approach for qualitative data collection

<i>Methods</i>	<i>Sampling</i>
<i>FGDs with beneficiaries</i>	<i>Based on the sampling, 11 targeted districts were selected for FGDs: Faizobod, Nurobod, Rasht, Tojikobod, Lakhsh (Jirgatal), Khovaling, Muminobod, Rushon,</i>

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	<i>Shugnon, Roshtqala, and Ishkashim. Participants were selected based on activity type, age, and gender. Gender-specific FGDs were held in select locations. Special considerations were made to include people with disabilities, ensuring that venues are accessible to all types of disabilities. However, their participation in FGDs was minimal.</i> <i>FGDs were conducted across randomly selected villages, representing 20 percent of the total 348 targeted villages. The distribution of FGDs per district was based on the proportional distribution of villages within each jamoat.</i> <i>FGD participants were grouped based on the type of support they received from the project. Beneficiaries who had community assets formed one group based on type of assets, while cash recipients were placed in another group.</i>
<i>FGDs with non-beneficiaries</i>	<i>The ET organised FGDs with non-beneficiaries at the regional level. These discussions were intended to provide a more neutral and controlled environment, to help foster open dialogue and mitigate any potential conflicts or concerns that may arise during interactions with program beneficiaries. Such FGDs were held in DRS (Gharm, in Khatlon in Muminobod) and in GBAO (Khorog). These discussions helped capture perspectives on how the intervention has influenced the wider community, including any unintended positive or negative impacts. Additionally, the FGDs provided insights into whether non-beneficiaries had adopted any practices or behaviours promoted by the project, as well as perceived gaps in access and inclusion. Findings from these discussions contributed to a more comprehensive evaluation of the project's reach and effectiveness beyond direct beneficiaries.</i>
<i>FGDs with Training-of-Trainers (TOT) Participants:</i>	<i>Trainers were selected based on specific criteria, including prior participation in program training and capacity-building activities. The selected local trainers came from the same locations as the beneficiary FGDs.</i> <i>Under the specific selection criteria for Trainers of the Focus Group Discussions (FGDs), two key factors were taken into consideration: the results of pre- and post-training tests and the effectiveness of cascading the received knowledge to other beneficiaries.</i>
<i>Key Informant Interviews (KII):</i>	<i>KIIs were purposively sampled and included individuals from the following categories: government officials, WFP staff involved in the planning, development, and implementation of the programme, and donor representatives. KII focused on participants with specialized knowledge of at least one aspect of the programme, excluding beneficiaries.</i> <i>To capture diverse experiences and insights on the performance, challenges, and impact of distributed assets, KIIs were also held with individual asset owners. This approach helped gather in-depth qualitative data from those who have received interventions such as greenhouses, drip irrigation systems, agroforestry/orchard initiatives, and storage facilities.</i>

269. The ET ensured a transparent selection of beneficiaries to capture diverse community perspectives while preventing gatekeeping. Beneficiary lists were obtained from WFP and reviewed taking into account the participation in WFP activities and also gender, age, and vulnerability status. A stratified sampling approach ensured representation across key demographic groups, with clear selection criteria emphasizing socioeconomic diversity and inclusivity. To prevent bias, independent validation and random checks were conducted, and separate FGDs were organized for underrepresented groups where possible. Confidentiality protocols were enforced to protect participants' identities and data security. FGDs were distributed proportionally across the 11 targeted districts. KIIs were conducted with individuals whose roles and expertise were directly relevant to one or more aspects of project implementation.

Ethical Considerations

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270. The evaluation adhered to the 2020 UNEG Ethical Guidelines and the WFP standards for accountability and safeguarding. All participants were informed of their rights, including voluntary participation and the assurance of confidentiality and anonymity. Informed consent was obtained prior to all data collection activities. No data were collected from children or minors. Ethical standards were also applied in the treatment of sensitive information, data protection, and the respectful engagement with vulnerable populations.

Validation and Learning

271. To enhance the credibility and practical utility of the findings, a learning workshop and remote feedback sessions were organized. These sessions provided opportunities for stakeholders to review and validate preliminary findings and offer feedback. This participatory process supported transparency, enhanced stakeholder ownership, and contributed to refining the final analysis and conclusions.

272. The methodological approach adopted in this evaluation was designed to ensure a high standard of rigour, ethical integrity, and relevance. It reflects the WFP commitment to evidence-based decision making and the continuous improvement of programme design and delivery.

Limitations

273. **Data and institutional memory:** The ET faced significant challenges related to institutional memory of project interventions, largely due to high staff turnover within WFP and across both central and local government institutions and agencies. In addition, cooperation partners responsible for implementation in the target regions had already completed their involvement before the evaluation mission commenced. As a result, only a limited number of interviewed stakeholders had knowledge of the project from its inception. To address these gaps, the ET relied on secondary documentation and employed cross-triangulation methods to validate the available information.

274. **Access constraints:** Permissions for primary data collection in communities are required in Tajikistan, particularly for Rasht Valley and GBAO regions. To ensure appropriate data collection coverage, the ET worked closely with WFP field offices to obtain such permissions and conduct the data collection as planned. WFP sent the letters through the MFA to the relevant government institutions at national and subnational levels. The engagement of local male and female enumerators who speak the local language helped direct access and allowed for reflections in the native language of the final beneficiaries, including women in traditional conservative areas. The local consultants conducted focus group discussions, ensuring continued data collection in all initially identified areas. On 13 April 2025 an earthquake hit several regions of Tajikistan, including Rasht and Sughd regions – areas subject to data collection by enumerators. According to commission reports, 67 homes were entirely destroyed, 195 partially damaged, 186 lightly damaged, and more than 140 were affected, causing only minor damage.¹³⁸ The ET and the WFP office decided to pause data collection in the affected areas and focus on other areas unaffected by the earthquake. Also, during the data collection dates the enumerator team responsible for GBAO faced challenges due to the road situation and avalanches. The Bartang gorge was particularly difficult to access in order to conduct FGDs and KIIs. With the support of the local CP and WFP FO, the enumerator team adjusted their schedule and managed to visit beneficiaries in that area.

275. **Cultural barriers:** The evaluation touched on culturally sensitive topics, such as financial hardship and family resilience, which can often affect the extent to which some respondents provide guarded responses or avoid specific questions altogether. These factors may have introduced an element of response bias. To mitigate this challenge, well-experienced local enumerators were employed to build trust and create a safe environment for discussions within the FGDs. Questions were framed sensitively, and anonymity was emphasized to encourage honest responses. As noted before, enumerator teams were also investing efforts to include women from traditional communities, by organizing separate women-only and

¹³⁸ <https://reliefweb.int/report/tajikistan/tajikistan-earthquake-2025-dref-operation-mdrtj036>

men-only groups, led by female/male enumerators respectively.

276. **Data constraints:** Significant limitations were also observed in the availability and quality of quantitative outcome-level data. The absence of a coherent M&E framework further affected the consistency, credibility and utility of the data collected. Data provided was not consistently disaggregated by sex, age, disability, or vulnerable group, which limited the Evaluation Team's ability to assess the project reach, equity and differential impact across population sub-groups. As a result of these challenges, the Evaluation Team was selective in its use of available quantitative outcome data and placed greater emphasis on qualitative data sources to inform its analysis, triangulating findings through interviews and secondary documentation wherever possible.

277. **Availability of project documentation:** Documentation to support the analysis and verify project results was provided. Some challenges were noted with availability of documents such as steering committee meeting notes and joint monitoring. To address this limitation, the ET used data collected directly from the field to verify and complement the information presented in the reports.

278. **Financial records:** Financial records disaggregated by activity were made available, with some limitations in terms of information on activity-level spending by year due to WFP financial systems. To mitigate these limitations, the ET used the available documentation and cross-triangulated it with KIIs and other sources to construct a plausible picture of financial implementation patterns and their implications for project performance.

279. **Project implementation period:** This evaluation's extended timeframe, covering multiple years, presented challenges in terms of beneficiary focus, institutional memory, and other datasets. To mitigate potential challenges, participants were asked to reflect on their experiences over the entire evaluation period, not just recent months. This approach was applied across FGDs and KIIs to capture long-term cascade effects and trends.

Annex 13. Links between findings, conclusions and recommendations

Overview of links between findings, conclusions and recommendations

Finding 1. The project was structured in alignment with national adaptation frameworks and sectoral development plans and addressed defined climate risks and livelihood constraints in the target districts. The project also addressed key vulnerabilities of rural populations, particularly in relation to water, food security, and access to climate information. However, the relevance of the project was strong in its design but was moderated during implementation by operational delays and systemic constraints, related to limited implementation capacity and external dependency.	Conclusion 1. Relevance and national ownership	Recommendation 1. Consolidate and scale tested intervention models through modular and standardized delivery packages. Recommendation 2. Strengthen institutional anchoring and operational sustainability of climate information services through tailored technical assistance and decentralized service delivery models. Recommendation 3. Continue strengthening inclusion and women's empowerment by building practical, context-specific mechanisms for participation, follow-up, and access to resources.
Finding 2. The project's inputs were well aligned with its objectives and were grounded in a clearly defined results logic. The inception phase played a critical role in adjusting the inputs to reflect implementation realities, which helped preserve the overall coherence of the intervention. Although external and procedural challenges affected the timing and delivery of some components, the inputs remained largely appropriate and adequate for the achievement of planned results. The project was also consistent with WFP strategic positioning on climate action, both in Tajikistan and at the corporate level.	Conclusion 1. Relevance and national ownership	Recommendation 1. Consolidate and scale tested intervention models through modular and standardized delivery packages. Recommendation 2. Strengthen institutional anchoring and operational sustainability of climate information services through tailored technical assistance and decentralized service delivery models. Recommendation 3. Continue strengthening inclusion and women's empowerment by building practical, context-specific mechanisms for participation, follow-up, and access to resources.

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Finding 3. The project was internally coherent and strategically aligned with national and multilateral climate adaptation priorities. It was also found to be internally mutually thematically complementary across its components. However, external coherence and collaboration with multilateral actors and implementing partners during delivery was limited. While formal governance structures were functional, technical coordination and systematic collaboration mechanisms were not fully in place.	Conclusion 2. Coherence	Recommendation 2. Strengthen institutional anchoring and operational sustainability of climate information services through tailored technical assistance and decentralized service delivery models. Recommendation 3. Continue strengthening inclusion and women's empowerment by building practical, context-specific mechanisms for participation, follow-up, and access to resources.
Finding 4. The project fully disbursed its allocated GCF budget and demonstrated effective financial management, including strategic prioritization of funds in response to inflation and cost pressures. However, overall implementation efficiency was constrained by delayed project approval, funding disbursement lags. Operational bottlenecks, including the signing of MoUs and procurement processes, also resulted in a compressed timeline, adjustments to output quality and specifications, and late CBT payments	Conclusion 3. Efficiency	Recommendation 2. Strengthen institutional anchoring and operational sustainability of climate information services through tailored technical assistance and decentralized service delivery models. Recommendation 4. Embed proactive risk management, sustainability planning, and institutional handover strategies from the outset.
Finding 5. The project demonstrated effective coordination at the district level, where local structures actively supported project implementation and coordination. However, coordination mechanisms at the central level were inconsistent, marked by limited stakeholder consultation, weak technical collaboration, and a lack of visibility into project operations and financial management. These factors hindered alignment and coherence at the central level and reduced trust among government partners.	Conclusion 4. Effectiveness and adaptive management	Recommendation 1. Consolidate and scale tested intervention models through modular and standardized delivery packages. Recommendation 2. Strengthen institutional anchoring and operational sustainability of climate information services through tailored technical assistance and decentralized service delivery models. Recommendation 3. Continue strengthening inclusion and women's empowerment by building practical, context-specific mechanisms for participation, follow-up, and access to resources. Recommendation 4. Embed proactive risk management, sustainability planning, and

		institutional handover strategies from the outset.
Finding 6. Multiple communication and participatory mechanisms were established, but they remained one-directional and did not enable meaningful community influence or adaptive learning. Weak communication practices, limited transparency, and inadequate documentation hindered coordination and national ownership, despite efforts to enhance communication.	Conclusion 4. Effectiveness and adaptive management	Recommendation 1. Consolidate and scale tested intervention models through modular and standardized delivery packages. Recommendation 2. Strengthen institutional anchoring and operational sustainability of climate information services through tailored technical assistance and decentralized service delivery models. Recommendation 3. Continue strengthening inclusion and women's empowerment by building practical, context-specific mechanisms for participation, follow-up, and access to resources. Recommendation 4. Embed proactive risk management, sustainability planning, and institutional handover strategies from the outset.
Finding 7. The project made solid progress in achieving its planned outputs and outcomes with strong transformative potential, though the achievement of sustained and inclusive impact will require continued institutional engagement, tailored follow-up support, and attention to equity-related barriers. Component 1 engagement contributed to the strengthening of climate information systems and decision-making capacities, while Component 2 contributed to the enhancement of livelihoods through asset creation, irrigation, and renewable technologies. Investments in infrastructure, ICT systems, and training enabled households to adopt climate-resilient agricultural practices, while the integration of adaptation plans into district development processes contributed to local ownership and sustainability. However, effectiveness was uneven across contexts due to structural constraints such as digital exclusion, limited institutional coordination, and climate-related unsuitability of some	Conclusion 4. Effectiveness and adaptive management	Recommendation 1. Consolidate and scale tested intervention models through modular and standardized delivery packages. Recommendation 2. Strengthen institutional anchoring and operational sustainability of climate information services through tailored technical assistance and decentralized service delivery models. Recommendation 3. Continue strengthening inclusion and women's empowerment by building practical, context-specific mechanisms for participation, follow-up, and access to resources. Recommendation 4. Embed proactive risk management, sustainability planning, and institutional handover strategies

interventions.		from the outset.
Finding 8. The project maintained the capacity to adapt to external changes and evolving contextual risks, with documented adjustments in operational modalities, technical design, and institutional coordination. However, these adaptations were in some cases delayed or partial, and their effectiveness was influenced by procedural constraints, limited anticipatory mechanisms, and variable stakeholder engagement.	Conclusion 4. Effectiveness and adaptive management	Recommendation 1. Consolidate and scale tested intervention models through modular and standardized delivery packages. Recommendation 2. Strengthen institutional anchoring and operational sustainability of climate information services through tailored technical assistance and decentralized service delivery models. Recommendation 3. Continue strengthening inclusion and women's empowerment by building practical, context-specific mechanisms for participation, follow-up, and access to resources. Recommendation 4. Embed proactive risk management, sustainability planning, and institutional handover strategies from the outset.
Finding 9. The project's accountability mechanisms were moderately effective. Mechanisms that WFP had in place enabled beneficiaries to raise concerns, and several instances of operational adjustment were made in response to grievances. However, there were some limitations to the extent to which systemic and recurrent issues could be fully resolved, indicating weaknesses in administrative preparedness and information management.	Conclusion 4. Effectiveness and adaptive management	Recommendation 1. Consolidate and scale tested intervention models through modular and standardized delivery packages. Recommendation 2. Strengthen institutional anchoring and operational sustainability of climate information services through tailored technical assistance and decentralized service delivery models. Recommendation 3. Continue strengthening inclusion and women's empowerment by building practical, context-specific mechanisms for participation, follow-up, and access to resources. Recommendation 4. Embed proactive risk management, sustainability planning, and institutional handover strategies from the outset.

Finding 10. The project achieved considerable success in embedding gender-responsive design and delivering targeted support to households headed by women. Measurable improvements were observed in food production, income generation, energy use, and time poverty. However, deeper structural outcomes such as access to credit, asset ownership, and collective agency among women remained limited. The absence of tailored support for persons with disabilities and the constrained digital access among women also limited the inclusiveness of the project's broader effects.	Conclusion 7. Gender and equity	Recommendation 4. Embed proactive risk management, sustainability planning and institutional handover strategies from the outset.
Finding 11. The likelihood that the project's benefits will continue post-WFP engagement is moderate. The project established foundations for sustainability through policy integration, infrastructure development, and capacity strengthening. However, several sustainability conditions remain unmet, including the need for continued financing, formal asset maintenance arrangements, stronger linkages to financial systems, and reinforced institutional capacity.	Conclusion 6. Sustainability, replicability and scale-up potential	Recommendation 1. Consolidate and scale tested intervention models through modular and standardized delivery packages. Recommendation 2. Strengthen institutional anchoring and operational sustainability of climate information services through tailored technical assistance and decentralized service delivery models. Recommendation 3. Continue strengthening inclusion and women's empowerment by building practical, context-specific mechanisms for participation, follow-up, and access to resources.
Finding 12. The project contributed meaningfully to climate resilience and social development outcomes, with selective contributions to low-emission practices. Key achievements include enhanced water and land management, income diversification, expanded access to climate and market information, and improved food security for vulnerable groups.	Conclusion 5. Impact prospects	Recommendation 2. Strengthen institutional anchoring and operational sustainability of climate information services through tailored technical assistance and decentralized service delivery models. Recommendation 3. Continue strengthening inclusion and women's empowerment by building practical, context-specific mechanisms for participation, follow-up, and access to resources.
Finding 13. The project made substantive	Conclusion 6.	Recommendation 2. Strengthen

efforts to promote national ownership by aligning with policy frameworks and engaging key institutions. However, centralized decision-making processes, limited delegation of authority to local actors, and the underrepresentation of marginalized groups reduced the potential for more comprehensive and inclusive ownership.	Sustainability, replicability and scale-up potential	institutional anchoring and operational sustainability of climate information services through tailored technical assistance and decentralized service delivery models. Recommendation 3. Continue strengthening inclusion and women's empowerment by building practical, context-specific mechanisms for participation, follow-up, and access to resources.
Finding 14. The project introduced locally innovative, scalable technologies such as drip irrigation systems and solar-powered water pumps, which enhanced water efficiency and supported climate resilience in remote and resource-constrained settings. Additionally, it developed an ICT-based system for real-time climate and market information, which, has a potential to be sustained via a cost-free model financed by advertising.	Conclusion 6. Sustainability, replicability and scale-up potential	Recommendation 2. Strengthen institutional anchoring and operational sustainability of climate information services through tailored technical assistance and decentralized service delivery models. Recommendation 3. Continue strengthening inclusion and women's empowerment by building practical, context-specific mechanisms for participation, follow-up, and access to resources.
Finding 15. The potential for replication and scaling up the project is primarily linked to strengthening and institutionalizing the models that were tested through the project, including drip irrigation, solar-powered pumps, and ICT-based advisory tools, many of which have shown operational viability and relevance. The project's broader scalability potential lies in further consolidation and integration into existing local systems and planning frameworks to ensure broader adoption and sustained impact.	Conclusion 6. Sustainability, replicability and scale-up potential	Recommendation 2. Strengthen institutional anchoring and operational sustainability of climate information services through tailored technical assistance and decentralized service delivery models. Recommendation 3. Continue strengthening inclusion and women's empowerment by building practical, context-specific mechanisms for participation, follow-up, and access to resources.

Annex 14. Key changes to the Evaluation Questions

The analytical framework for the evaluation builds on the 46 evaluation questions (EQs) presented in the ToR, which cover the OECD DAC, WFP, and GCF evaluation criteria and guidelines. During the inception period, the ET reviewed the EQs in coordination with the CO and agreed to refine the EQs as presented in Table 2 below. The Table provides the original EQs as outlined in the ToR, the revised EQs and their positioning under the Evaluation matrix (at EQ, sub-question or indicator levels). As the TOR did not provide an overarching question per each criterion, during the inception consultations with CO and RBB, it was decided that the Evaluation matrix will present the criteria, the EQs and sub-questions, to ensure that all criteria are transparently visible and that they provide a framework for assessment. The final agreed EQs were unpacked into the Evaluation matrix, presented in Annex 4.

Key changes to the Evaluation Questions

Evaluation Questions as per ToR		Proposed revision	Final consolidated EQs
CRITERION 1 - Relevance			
	No overarching EQ was presented in the TOR.	It is proposed to include an overarching Relevance EQ	1.1. To what extent was the project design and its interventions relevant to the needs of the target beneficiaries and the context, including national policies and priorities?
1.1	Were the planned inputs and strategies identified realistic, appropriate, and adequate to achieve the results? In terms of design, were they sequenced sufficiently to efficiently deliver the expected results?	No change, included as 1.2	1.2. Were the planned inputs and strategies identified realistic, appropriate, and adequate to achieve the results?
1.2	To what extent and how did the project interventions address the needs (including climate-related) of the target beneficiary groups (including men and women, people with disabilities)	Included as as Sub-question 1.1.1 under EQ 1.1	1.1.1 To what extent and how did the project interventions address the needs (including climate-related) of the target beneficiary groups (including men and women, people with disabilities)
1.3	To what extent was the project in line with the national sector development priorities and plans of the country, including new policies adopted during the implementation of the project?	Included as Sub-question 1.1.2 under EQ 1.1 with some further refinement to ensure national and subnational levels are covered.	1.1.2 To what extent was the project in line with the national sector development priorities and plans of the national and subnational level in Tajikistan, including new policies adopted during the implementation of the project?

Evaluation Questions as per ToR		Proposed revision	Final consolidated EQs
1.4	To what extent was the logical framework aligned with the overarching objectives (outputs, outcomes, and goal) of the project? Did the indicators meet the SMART criteria?	Sub-question 1.2.1 under 1.2	1..2.1 To what extent was the logical framework aligned with the overarching objectives (outputs, outcomes, and goal) of the project? Did the indicators meet the SMART criteria?
1.5	How effectively does the Theory of Change (ToC) of the project captures the pathways and cause-to-effect relationships at different levels of change? What key assumptions needed to be identified as part of the ToC?	Included as indicator under sub-question 1.2.1	
1.6	How valid was the risk identification and risk rating in the project? Were any risks missed and if so, what were the consequences?	Included as indicator under 1.2	
Criterion 2. Coherence			
2.1	To what extent and how was the intervention coherent with the climate change adaptation and mitigation interventions of other multilateral entities (stakeholders) and climate funds implemented in the country?	Included as indicator under EQ 1.3	2.1. How coherent and strategically aligned was the project's intervention with the broader climate change adaptation and mitigation efforts of multilateral entities, and how effectively did the project's partnerships leverage their capacities and commitments to achieve the desired outcomes?
2.2	Who were the partners of the project, and how strategic were they in terms of capacities and commitments?	Included as sub-question 3.1.2	Who were the partners of the project, and how strategic were they in terms of capacities and commitments?

Evaluation Questions as per ToR		Proposed revision	Final consolidated EQs
Criterion 3. Efficiency			
3.1	To what extent did the project the outputs and results in a timely and cost-efficient/economically efficient manner?	Included as indicator under 3.1	3.1. How efficiently were the project's outputs and results delivered in terms of time, cost, and resource utilisation, and to what extent did financial controls and management practices support effective decision-making and the timely flow of funds? Was co-financing used strategically to advance the project's objectives?
3.2	Were project resources utilised in the most economical, efficient, and equitable ways possible (considering absorption rate; commitments versus disbursements and projected commitments; etc.)?	Included as indicator under 3.1	
3.3	Did the project have the appropriate financial controls, including reporting and planning, that allow management to make informed decisions regarding the budget and allow for a timely flow of funds?	Included as indicator under 3.1	
3.4	Is co-financing being used strategically to help the objectives of the project? How did the use of different financial streams (in-kind, parallel, leveraged, mobilised finance) work? To what extent have co-finance-related conditions and covenants (as listed in the FAA) been fulfilled? If co-finance is not materialising as planned, discuss the impact of that on the project and the results on the ground	Included as sub-question 3.1,2	
3.5	Were coordination, management and financing arrangements clearly defined and did they support institutional strengthening and local ownership?	Included as sub-question 3.2.1	3.2. To what extent were the project's coordination, management, and governance mechanisms clearly defined and effective in supporting institutional strengthening, local

Evaluation Questions as per ToR		Proposed revision	Final consolidated EQs
3.6	How efficient were the projects' governance mechanisms?	Included as indicator under EQ 3.2.1	ownership, and overall project efficiency?
3.7	To what extent was communication regular and effective? Were any key stakeholders left out of communication? Were there feedback mechanisms for receiving communication? Did this communication with stakeholders contribute to the timely implementation of the project?	Included as 3.3	3.3. How effective were the communication strategies and mechanisms in ensuring regular, inclusive, and transparent communication with all stakeholders?
3.8	Was there effective operationalisation of the agreed grievance mechanism for effective, timely resolution and feedback mechanism for grievances, incidents, compliments?	Included as indicator under EQ 10	
Criterion 4 - Effectiveness			
4.1	To what extent were the expected outputs and outcomes of the project achieved?	Included as indicator under 4.1	4.1. To what extent were the project's objectives achieved, and how did the project perform against its planned outputs, outcomes, and indicators?
4.2	What is the performance of the project against the end-line target indicators set in the log frame of the project (based on the quantitative analysis of end-line values of the project indicators?	Included as indicator under 4.1	
4.3	To what extent and how was the project adapted or was able to adapt to changing external conditions (risks and assumptions) to ensure benefits for the target groups?	Included as sub-question 4.2.1	4.2. How well did the project adapt to external changes, including risks and assumptions, to continue delivering benefits to the target groups?

Evaluation Questions as per ToR		Proposed revision	Final consolidated EQs
4.4	How effective was project management as outlined in the FAA/Funding proposal?	Included as indicator under 3.2	
4.5	How good was the quality of execution of the Executing Agency/Implementing Partner(s)?	Included as indicator under 3.2	
4.6	How effective was the support provided by WFP?	Included as indicator under 3.2	
4.7	Is a grievance/feedback mechanism in place? If so, assess its effectiveness in case resolution and where necessary protection of the aggrieved.	Included as 4.3	4.3. How effectively were the feedback and grievance mechanisms, as well as reporting processes, implemented to enhance project management, accountability, and learning?
4.8	How well do the Project Team and partners undertake and fulfil GCF reporting requirements?	Included as indicator under 4.3	
4.9	How lessons have been documented, shared with key partners, and internalised by partners?	Included as indicator under 4.3	
Criterion 5. Gender Equality			

Evaluation Questions as per ToR		Proposed revision	Final consolidated EQs
5.1	Have the gender aspects of the project been monitored effectively? To what extent were all planned target groups benefitting from access to, and use of, project outputs?	Included as indicator under 5.1	5.1. How effectively were gender considerations integrated and monitored throughout the project, ensuring that all target groups, including women and marginalised communities, benefited equitably from project outputs and interventions?
5.2	To what extent did the project create inclusive participation of most vulnerable groups including women, marginalised and minority groups, and people with disabilities have equal access to the project's results/services as well as the decision-making processes?	Included as indicator under 5.1	
5.3	Are financial resources/project activities explicitly allocated to enable women to benefit from project interventions (women empowerment)?	Included as indicator under 5.1	
5.4	To what extent do women and men as beneficiaries know their rights and/or benefits from the project activities/interventions?	Included as indicator under 5.1	
5.5	To what extent has the project, in both activities and planning, accounted for local gender dynamics and how project interventions affect women as beneficiaries?	Included as indicator under 5.1	
5.6	How do the results and beneficiation for women compare to those for men?	Included as indicator under 5.1	
5.7	To what extent is the decision-making process transparent and gender inclusive?	Included as indicator under 5.1	

Evaluation Questions as per ToR		Proposed revision	Final consolidated EQs
Criterion 6 - Sustainability			
6.1	Were financial, socio-political, institutional, environmental and social risks adequately identified and managed under the project framework?	slight revision	6.1. Were financial, socio-political, institutional, environmental and social risks adequately identified, managed, and mitigated throughout the project lifecycle?
6.2	Have the Environmental and Social Safeguarding (ESS) tools and instruments to mitigate/minimise/avoid environmental and/or social risks at design been applied in modes of delivery promoting and ensuring sustainability in the implementation of the outputs of the project?	Included as indicator under 6.1	
6.3	Are there any environmental and social risks or residuals which have emanated during the implementation of the project requiring mitigation/ remedial/ management post implementation/ at the closing of the project? Were mitigation/ minimisation/ remedial measures recommended and applied? (Provide documentation in annexures).	Included as indicator under 6.1	
6.4	To what extent is it likely that the benefits of the project will continue after WFP work ceases?	no change of question	6.2. To what extent is it likely that the benefits of the project will continue after WFP work ceases?
Criterion 7 - Impact			
7.1	To what extent has the project potentially contributed to achieving stronger and more coherent integration of shift to low-emission sustainable development pathways and/or increased climate resilient sustainable development (GCF RMF/PMF Paradigm Shift objectives)?	slight revision of the EQ	7.1. To what extent has the project contributed to sustainable development outcomes, including low-emission pathways, climate resilience, and social impact?

Evaluation Questions as per ToR		Proposed revision	Final consolidated EQs
7.2	What evidence is there for lasting impacts from the project on food security, gender equality and women's empowerment, social and economic status of vulnerable groups, improved climate change adaptation and resilience building?	Included as indicator under 7.1	
Criterion 8 – Country Ownership			
8.1	Were the modes of delivery of the outputs appropriate to build essential/necessary capacities, promote national ownership and ensure the sustainability of the result achieved?	no change	8.1 Were the modes of delivery of the outputs appropriate to build essential/necessary capacities, promote national ownership and ensure the sustainability of the result achieved?
Criterion 9 – Innovativeness in result areas			
9.1	To what extent did the project create opportunities for targeting innovative solutions, new market segments, and developing or adopting new technologies, business models, and/or processes that bring about a paradigm shift?	slightly revised	9.1. To what extent has the project fostered innovative solutions, thought leadership, and the unlocking of additional climate finance for climate change adaptation and mitigation, and how can these roles be enhanced moving forward?
9.2	What role has the project played in the provision of "thought leadership," "innovation," or "unlocked additional climate finance" for climate change adaptation/mitigation in the project and country context? Provide concrete examples and make specific suggestions on how to enhance these roles going forward.	Included as subquestion 9.1.1	

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Evaluation Questions as per ToR		Proposed revision	Final consolidated EQs
Criterion 10 – Replication			
10.1	To what degree can activities be replicated in other countries or other locations?	no change	10.1 To what degree can activities be replicated in other countries or other locations?
Criterion 11 –Scalability			
10.2	Does the programme have the potential to expand its scale and impact without increasing the total costs of implementation?	Included as indicator under 10.1	
Criterion 12 –Unexpected results, both positive and negative			
12.1	To what degree has the project generated significant positive or negative, unintended or unanticipated results?	no change	12.1 To what degree has the project generated significant positive or negative, unintended or unanticipated results?
12.2	What factors have contributed to the unintended outcomes, outputs, activities, and results?	Included as indicator under 12.1	
12.3	Does the intervention integrate M&E as a key element of project design and implementation to identify and respond to emerging or unintended problems or risks and/or capitalise on positive unintended results?	Included as sub-question 2.2.2	

Annex 15. Management Response to evaluation recommendations

Management Response from WFP Tajikistan to the recommendations of the decentralized evaluation of *“Building climate resilience of vulnerable and food-Insecure communities through capacity strengthening and livelihood diversification in mountainous regions of Tajikistan”* project (DE/TJCO/2022/008) from March 2020 to March 2025



1. This document, finalized in October 2025 presents the management response to the recommendations of the decentralized evaluation *“Building climate resilience of vulnerable and food-Insecure communities through capacity strengthening and livelihood diversification in mountainous regions of Tajikistan”* project funded by the Green Climate Fund (GCF).
2. The evaluation, which was commissioned by the WFP Tajikistan covers the entirety of project implementation (thematic, temporal and geographic scope). The evaluation serves the dual purpose of accountability and learning aiming to assess the project’s performance and results, understand the factors behind achievements and shortfalls, and generate evidence-based findings to inform decision-making. It will further provide transparency on the use of funds and capture lessons to replicate or scale up effective approaches in future programming.

The evaluation made 4 (four) key recommendations with 10 (ten) sub-recommendations. The matrix sets out whether WFP agrees, partially agrees or disagrees with the recommendations and sub-recommendations. It presents the planned (or taken) actions, responsibilities and timelines.

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Recommendations and related Sub-recommendations	Recommendation and Sub-Recommendation Lead <i>(Supporting Offices/Divisions)</i>	Management Response	Actions to be taken	Action Lead <i>(Supporting Offices/Divisions)</i>	Action Deadline
Priority: High Recommendation 1: Consolidate and scale tested intervention models through modular and standardized delivery packages	WFP CO Programme, RAM	Partially Agreed. WFP recognizes the need to standardize tested interventions to carry out similar activities under different funding. However, WFP would need to consider differences in approaches, donor requirements and community preferences that would make changes to standard interventions.	<i>Not applicable</i>	<i>Not applicable</i>	<i>Not applicable</i>
Sub-recommendation 1.1: Develop and operationalize standardized community-level support packages that combine climate-resilient infrastructure (such as drinking water systems and irrigation), productive and storage assets (such as orchards, greenhouses combined with storage technologies), and targeted capacity strengthening (such as training in adaptive agriculture, asset use, market access, and climate	WFP CO Programme	Partially Agreed. WFP has started standardization of the interventions during the implementation of the project funded by GCF. For example, standardized guidelines were developed to conduct training for the farmers on market	1.1.1 Develop standardized community-level support packages for climate-resilient infrastructure (such as drinking water systems and irrigation) and for productive and storage assets (such as orchards, greenhouses combined with storage technologies) 1.1.2 Develop standardized	WFP Climate Change and Resilience Building Unit	March 2026

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Recommendations and related Sub-recommendations	Recommendation and Sub-Recommendation Lead (Supporting Offices/Divisions)	Management Response	Actions to be taken	Action Lead (Supporting Offices/Divisions)	Action Deadline
services). These packages should be designed for modular replication and adjusted to local agricultural, environmental and socioeconomic conditions		accessibility, gardening and greenhouse management and shared with the CP to follow. Standardized community-level support packages will be developed for assets creation (climate-resilient infrastructure, productive and storage assets).	community-level support packages for capacity strengthening (such as training in adaptive agriculture, asset use, market access, and climate services)		
Sub-recommendation 1.2: Provide regular follow-up coaching to help troubleshoot problems, offer seasonal guidance, and encourage continued use of delivered assets. Such practical support could be coordinated through local structures, such as jamoat committees, farmers' groups or informal groups (e.g., WhatsApp or similar groups created by the project).	WFP CO Programme	Partially Agreed. WFP trained local agronomists and extension workers to provide continued support to the farmers as part of PICSA trainings. It is agreed that project could have used modern technologies and social media apps for making easier communication.	1.2.1 Develop modern technologies and social media apps to assist asset beneficiaries. 1.2.2 Develop guidance for problem troubleshooting, seasonal guidance for the beneficiaries.	WFP Climate Change and Resilience Building Unit	March 2026
Sub-recommendation 1.3: Base the	WFP CO	Partially Agreed.	1.3.1 Integrate new	WFP Climate	March 2026

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Recommendations and related Sub-recommendations	Recommendation and Sub-Recommendation Lead <i>(Supporting Offices/Divisions)</i>	Management Response	Actions to be taken	Action Lead <i>(Supporting Offices/Divisions)</i>	Action Deadline
community selection on transparent and criteria-based vulnerability assessments, and planning should be conducted jointly with local authorities and communities through participatory mechanisms aligned with district development plans. This approach would enhance local ownership, relevance and sustainability.	Programme, RAM, FOs	Project has been coordinating implementation of activities with the local government on the district level through the Project Steering Committee and at the district and Jamoat level through Project Management Committees. It is agreed that there is a need to improve project targeting, and community selection process. WFP has started process of improving targeting process by incorporating better management system which uses MODA and by developing clear and measurable criteria.	approaches for targeting and selection of project target areas and beneficiaries 1.3.2 WFP will strengthen documentation and reporting of district-level project coordination meetings by introducing standardized templates and ensuring timely sharing of minutes with partners and local authorities to enhance transparency and coordination.	Change and Resilience Building Unit RAM FOs	
Priority: High Recommendation 2: Strengthen	WFP CO Programme	<i>Agreed.</i>	<i>Not applicable</i>	<i>Not applicable</i>	<i>Not applicable</i>

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Recommendations and related Sub-recommendations	Recommendation and Sub-Recommendation Lead <i>(Supporting Offices/Divisions)</i>	Management Response	Actions to be taken	Action Lead <i>(Supporting Offices/Divisions)</i>	Action Deadline
institutional anchoring and operational sustainability of climate information services through tailored technical assistance and decentralized service delivery models					
Sub-recommendation 2.1: Focus its future technical assistance on strengthening the institutional and operational sustainability of national climate data collection and dissemination systems, particularly Hydromet. This includes supporting the development of decentralized climate service delivery models through local government structures, enhancing standard operating procedures for data use and forecasting at subnational level, and embedding climate services into planning and budgeting cycles.	WFP CO Programme	Agreed. WFP is working with Hydromet to incorporate climate service delivery mechanism using SMS and social media apps.	2.1.1 Continue building capacity of Hydromet on using and expanding functions of the SMS based system under current projects with other donors. 2.1.2 Continue building Hydromet's capacity on forecasting and data-based management.	WFP Climate Change and Resilience Building Unit	March 2026
Sub-recommendation 2.2: Prioritize practical integration of climate data dissemination services into agricultural extension and disaster risk management functions.	WFP CO Programme	Agreed.	2.2.1 Concentrate on climate data dissemination services in the new projects and focus on disaster risk management as part of EPR, depending on funds availability	WFP Climate Change and Resilience Building Unit	March 2026

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Recommendations and related Sub-recommendations	Recommendation and Sub-Recommendation Lead (Supporting Offices/Divisions)	Management Response	Actions to be taken	Action Lead (Supporting Offices/Divisions)	Action Deadline
Sub-recommendation 2.3: WFP should also support Hydromet and partner institutions in mobilizing domestic and external resources to sustain and scale these services beyond project timelines.	WFP CO Programme	<i>Agreed.</i> Business model has been considered for developing SMS based system, however, Hydromet needs further capacity building and practice of managing such systems.	2.3.1 Support Hydromet in exploring business models to sustain and scale the climate information services supported by the project.	WFP Climate Change and Resilience Building Unit	March 2026
Priority: High Recommendation 3: Strengthen inclusion and women's empowerment by building practical, context-specific mechanisms for participation, follow-up, and access to resources		<i>Partially Agreed.</i>	<i>WFP to further refine its existing mechanism for Women Economic Empowerment</i>		
Sub-recommendation 3.1: Partner with organisations of persons with disabilities (OPDs) and women's groups to map and profile women-headed households and persons with disabilities early in project design, including their specific access barriers (e.g. land ownership, mobility, caregiving responsibilities, digital access) to be able to tailor make	WFP CO Programme	<i>Agreed.</i>	3.1.1 Develop guidelines to incorporate activities in the projects concentrating on women/women-headed household and persons with disabilities considering barriers and digital access.	WFP Climate Change and Resilience Building Unit	March 2026

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Recommendations and related Sub-recommendations	Recommendation and Sub-Recommendation Lead <i>(Supporting Offices/Divisions)</i>	Management Response	Actions to be taken	Action Lead <i>(Supporting Offices/Divisions)</i>	Action Deadline
support interventions to their needs and obstacles.					
Sub-recommendation 3.2: Ensure representation of women and persons with disabilities in planning and oversight structures.	WFP CO Programme	<i>Partially Agreed.</i> WFP has included women and persons with disabilities into the project management committees while implementing project activities. However, there is a need to strengthen control on compliance for inclusion of women and persons with disabilities as the rates were not meeting the targets in the past.	3.2.1 WFP will work with partners and government counterparts to enhance the participation of women and persons with disabilities in local planning and oversight bodies, supported by clear inclusion indicators to track progress.	WFP Climate Change and Resilience Building Unit	March 2026
Sub-recommendation 3.3: Support the creation of user groups or peer networks for women and for persons with disability when formal groups do not exist.	WFP CO Programme	<i>Agreed.</i>	3.3.1 WFP will strengthen networking mechanisms using new technologies and communication apps for women and for persons with disability	WFP Climate Change and Resilience Building Unit	March 2026

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Recommendations and related Sub-recommendations	Recommendation and Sub-Recommendation Lead <i>(Supporting Offices/Divisions)</i>	Management Response	Actions to be taken	Action Lead <i>(Supporting Offices/Divisions)</i>	Action Deadline
Priority: Medium Recommendation 4: Embed proactive risk management, sustainability planning and institutional handover strategies from the outset.	WFP CO Programme	<i>Agreed.</i>	<i>Not applicable</i>	<i>Not applicable</i>	<i>Not applicable</i>
Sub-recommendation 4.1. To enhance resilience to funding disruptions, implementation delays and contextual volatility, WFP should introduce robust risk forecasting and contingency planning during project design. This includes defining clear sustainability benchmarks and asset maintenance strategies, strengthening the institutional ownership of digital platforms and formalizing long-term roles for public institutions and local stakeholders through capacity assessments and handover plans.	WFP CO Programme	<i>Agreed.</i> WFP has started incorporation of documentation of handover of assets, incorporation of agreements and other similar forms to improve record of project implementation.	4.1.1 WFP will integrate into project management, documents various aspects of project implementation, handover of assets and further maintenance responsibility by local stakeholders considering possible disruptions, implementation delays and contextual volatility.	WFP CO Programme WFP Climate Change and Resilience Building Unit	March 2026

Annex 16. Acronyms

AAP	Accountability to Affected Populations
ADB	Asian Development Bank
ALG	Agricultural Livelihood Groups
ALRI	Agency of Land Reclamation and Irrigation
CARI	Consolidated Approach for Reporting Indicators
CARITAS	Caritas Internationalis (International Catholic Organization for Relief and Development)
CCARB	Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience Building
CEP	Committee for Environmental Protection under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan
CO	Country Office
COMET	Country Office Monitoring and Evaluation Tool
CSP	Country Strategic Plan
DAI	Development Alternatives Incorporated
DARE	Data Analysis for Resilience and Equity
DDP	District Development Plan
DEQAS	Decentralized Evaluation Quality Assurance System
DHS	Demographic and Health Survey
DRD	Districts of Republican Subordination
DWSS	Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation
EB	Executive Board
EM	Emergency Management
EQ	Evaluation Question

ER	Evaluation Report
ERG	Evaluation Reference Group
ESS	Environmental and Social Safeguards
ET	Evaluation Team
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
FO	Field Office
GBAO	Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Oblast
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GDI	Gender Development Index
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GEWE	Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
GIS	Geographic Information System
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (German Development Agency)
HH	Household
HQ	Headquarters
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
IEU	Independent Evaluation Unit
IPC	Integrated Food Security Phase Classification
IR	Inception Report
ISO	International Organization for Standardization
IYCF	Infant and Young Child Feeding

KII	Key Informant Interview
MD	Monitoring and Data
MSDSP	Mountain Societies Development Support Programme
MTR	Mid-Term Review
NDC	Nationally Determined Contributions
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NSACC	National Strategy for Adaptation to Climate Change
NSC	National Steering Committee
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
PHC	Primary Health Care
PICSA	Participatory Integrated Climate Services for Agriculture
PISCA	Participatory Impact and Scaling Climate Action
PMC	Project Management Committee
PPP	Purchasing Power Parity
QA	Quality Assurance
APARO	WFP's Asia and Pacific Regional Office
RB	Regional Bureau
SBCC	Social and Behaviour Change Communication
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SMART	Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, Time-bound
SMS	Short Message Service
TJCO	Tajikistan Country Office
TL	Team Leader
ToC	Theory of Change
TOR	Terms of Reference

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TOT	Training of Trainers
UN	United Nations
UNCT	United Nations Country Team
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEG	United Nations Evaluation Group
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNICEF	United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund
UNRCO	United Nations Resident Coordinator Office
UNWOMEN	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USD	United States Dollar
VCD	Value Chain Development
WFO	World Farmers' Organisation
WFP	World Food Programme
WHO	World Health Organization
WMO	World Meteorological Organization

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