



World Food Programme

SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
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WFP Tajikistan Country Brief

November 2025

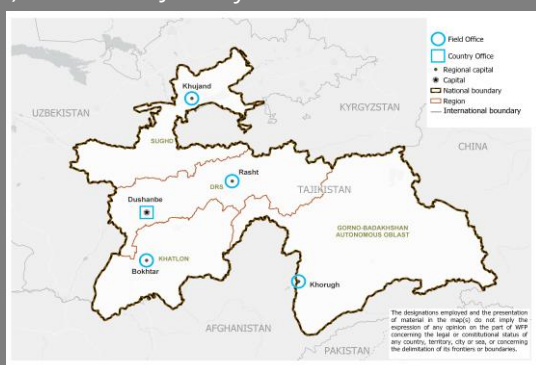


Operational Context

Tajikistan is a landlocked, mountainous country and its population of 10.27 million people is growing at a rate of nearly 2 percent per year – the highest rate in Eastern Europe and Central Asia. Half the population is under the age of 25, and a quarter lives in urban areas (Statistical Agency under President of the Republic of Tajikistan, 2020). The percentage of children under the age of five with stunting (low height-for-age) decreased from 26 percent in 2012 to 14 percent in 2023, while the percentage of children with wasting (low weight-for-age) decreased from 10 percent in 2012 to 6 percent in 2017 and 2023 (Tajikistan Demographic and Health Survey, 2023).

WFP is contributing to the Government's progress on Sustainable Development Goal 2: Zero Hunger, by providing access to appropriate nutritional support and healthcare, promoting school feeding, building resilience to the impacts of climate change, and ensuring preparedness for recurring natural disasters.

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



Population: **10 million**

2022 Human Development Index:
122 out of 191

Income Level: **Low**

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

Numbers



406,041 people were assisted

488.8 mt of food was distributed

US\$58,860 cash transfers made

US\$ 7.8 million net-funding requirements (December 2025 – May 2026)

Operational Updates

- With the support of WFP, the [2nd International CIS School Feeding Forum](#) took place in Dushanbe. This significant event for the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) welcomed over 300 participants, including representatives from ministries of health and education, international organisations such as WFP, school catering operators, parent associations, and leading experts. The Forum was organized by the Ministry of Health and Social Protection of the Population of the Republic of Tajikistan and the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Tajikistan, with the backing of the CIS Executive Committee, WFP, and the Social and Industrial Foodservice Institute (SIFI). Over three days, delegates from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Russia shared their achievements in child nutrition, exchanged effective national practices and discussed ways to involve parents and promote healthy eating habits. Participants concluded that the collaborative efforts made during the forum established clear priorities for the future development of national school feeding initiatives, emphasizing the value of international cooperation and knowledge sharing.
- Within its School Feeding Programme, WFP has initiated a new cycle of support for income-generating activities (IGA) designed to enhance the resilience of schools and improve onsite feeding at selected educational institutions. This phase targets the establishment of 10 new community assets in the Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Oblast (GBAO). These assets will provide direct support to school feeding programmes, including facilities for small-scale food production, storage units, and other resources to ensure a consistent supply of nutritious food for schools.

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Photo: The Second International CIS School Feeding Forum took place in Dushanbe. ©WFP

Country Strategic Plan (2023 – 2026)

Total Requirements (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six-Month (Dec 25 –May 26) Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
95.3 m	87.64 m	7.8 m

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

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

Focus area: Resilience building

Activities:

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

Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition

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

Focus area: Root causes

Activities:

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

Strategic Result 3: Food systems are sustainable

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

Focus area: Crisis response

Activities:

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

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

Focus area: Root causes

Activities:

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

- WFP plans to renovate and equip a bakery in Mastchoh District through a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) framework. This bakery will be essential for school feeding efforts by producing fortified bread for school meals, contributing to the nutritional quality of children's diets. Additionally, the bakery will cater to the local market, generating employment opportunities and reinforcing local value chains. This PPP model illustrates how collaboration between public institutions and private entities can improve nutrition and education while promoting economic development.
- The Eurasian Development Bank (EDB) and WFP signed a memorandum in Dushanbe to enhance food security in Tajikistan. EDB allocated USD 300,000 to WFP to assist in the production and consumption of fortified wheat flour nationwide. In this partnership, WFP will collaborate with the Ministry of Health and Social Protection of the Population of the Republic of Tajikistan, the Agency for Standardization, Metrology, Certification and Trade Inspection, and local flour mills to improve flour quality and strengthen national capacity. This initiative contributes to better nutrition and aims for a healthier future for communities in Tajikistan.
- WFP took part in the National Climate Conference of Youth – LCOY Tajikistan 2025, discussing climate change and youth engagement. Adham Musallam, WFP Representative and Country Director in Tajikistan, participated in a high-level panel called “Climate and Youth Policy Dialogue.” This session included government representatives and development partners who shared experiences and initiatives related to climate action and youth inclusion. WFP highlighted its commitment to sustainable development and empowering young people to create climate-resilient communities. Additionally, WFP set up an outdoor exhibition booth that garnered significant interest from university students studying agriculture, indicating a growing curiosity among young individuals about climate-smart farming. Through these initiatives, WFP aims to enhance the appeal of agriculture as a promising sector for youth.
- During the reporting period, WFP provided assistance to over 406,000 individuals through its school feeding programme, as well as nutrition and food-for-assets initiatives.

Donors

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