

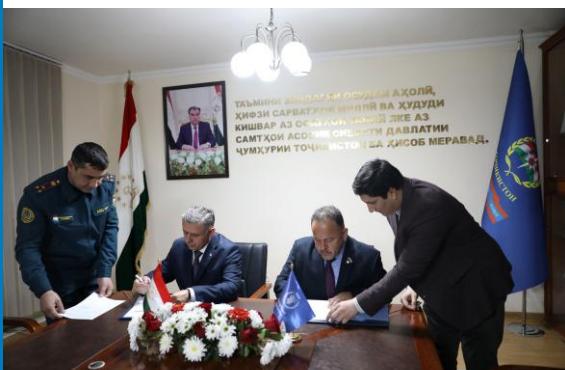


World Food
Programme

SAVING
LIVES
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LIVES

WFP Tajikistan Country Brief

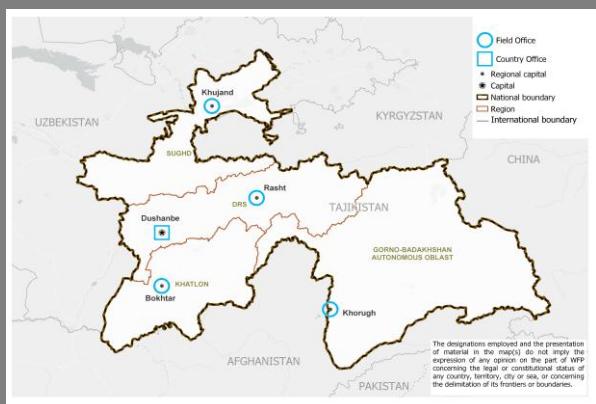
December 2025



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

Income Level: Low

2022 Human Development Index:
122 out of 191

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

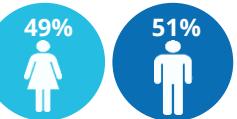
Numbers

313.4 mt of food was distributed

390,000 people were assisted

US\$3.49 million net-funding requirements (January – May 2026)

US\$44,150 cash transfers made



Operational Updates

- WFP and the Committee of Emergency Situations and Civil Defense (CoES) under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan entered into a new Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) aimed at enhancing collaboration in Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and resilience building for the next five years. Within the previous MOU, WFP provided essential support, which included delivering 119 mt of food to populations across more than 13 districts, assisting with food reserve management, improving warehouse infrastructure and tracking systems, and enhancing post-disaster needs assessments. The new MOU will build on these prior accomplishments, broadening the scope of cooperation to encompass not only disaster response but also risk reduction and resilience initiatives. As part of this collaboration, [WFP handed over two drones to CoES](#) to improve post-disaster assessments. These drones will serve the CoES's Crisis Management Centre in conducting thorough assessments, with the goal of strengthening disaster preparedness and response capabilities.

- Representatives from WFP and members of the National Inter-Ministerial Coordination Council (IMCC) visited Sughd Region to monitor the implementation of the State Programme on Development of School Feeding in the region. This included particularly monitoring the use of funds allocated from the national budget. The members held an extended meeting in the town of Khujand to explore ways to enhance the implementation and management of the school feeding programme in the region. The IMCC was established under the Ministry of Health and Social Protection of the Population of Tajikistan to coordinate the implementation of the "Strategy of Sustainable Development of School Feeding in the Republic of Tajikistan for the period up to 2027." In December, WFP provided hot meals to more than 1,840 schools in the country.

WFP and the Committee of Emergency Situations and Civil Defense (CoES) under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan. ©WFP

Country Strategic Plan (2023 – 2026)

Total Requirements (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six-Month (Jan –Jun 26) Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
95.3 m	90.14 m	3.49 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 held a roundtable with partners involved in wheat flour fortification to assess progress and challenges in 2025, exchange lessons learned and best practices, and align initiatives with national nutrition strategies and the forthcoming Country Strategic Plan. The discussion led to a common understanding of the advancements and gaps in the implementation of wheat flour fortification, agreement on strategic priorities for 2026–2030, and the collaborative development of a draft implementation plan for 2026. The results of the roundtable will support the incorporation of wheat flour fortification into Tajikistan's Country Strategic Plan and direct collaborative efforts to enhance the national food fortification programme in the coming five years.

- A workshop was held for seven collaborating partners in Dushanbe. These partners are set to start implementing project activities aimed at empowering youth farmers and enhancing resilient, inclusive agri-food value chains throughout Tajikistan. The workshop included a comprehensive projects overview, clarified shared goals and objectives, provided networking opportunities, and offered guidance on WFP policies and procedures, establishing a clear and unified foundation for implementation.

- WFP organised a regional webinar attended by 60 participants, focusing on "Social Behaviour Change" (SBC) Formative Research and Transformative Hygiene Practices in Schools: Defining Capacity and Innovation." The webinar featured formative research conducted by WFP Tajikistan and presented behaviour change interventions aimed at improving hand hygiene practices in schools. The session emphasized WFP Tajikistan's commitment to capacity strengthening, leadership, evidence-based programming, accountability, and innovation. A primary focus was the use of formative research via various participatory methodologies, which allowed the WFP team to investigate the underlying causes of social, gender, and cultural norms affecting SBC programming. The insights gained from this research directly contributed to developing an integrated, country-level SBC strategy. Based on this formative research, WFP implemented an innovative, human-centred approach to enhancing hygiene practices among schoolchildren. This approach emphasizes locally relevant, practical, and creative solutions that reinforce existing social structures within schools.

- During the reporting period, WFP provided assistance to over 390,000 individuals through its school feeding programme, as well as nutrition and food-for-assets initiatives.

Donors

Eurasian Development Bank (EDB), Government of Ireland, Joint SDG Fund, Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, USA, and private donors (Latter-day Saints Charities and Japan Association for WFP).