



WFP Tajikistan Country Brief

WFP Assistance

Tajikistan Country Programme	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6 Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
CP 200813 (Apr. 2016 – Dec.2020)	79.4 m	20.7 m (26%)	2.8 m

*October 2017- March 2018

GENDER MARKER **2A**  CP 200813

School Meals: WFP-supported school meals programme is an essential component of the Government of Tajikistan’s social safety net. It provides daily school meals to 370,000 students in 2,000 schools (over 54 percent of the total schools) in rural areas. The programme aims to assist vulnerable food insecure communities in rural areas. During the summer break, WFP and partners visited a number of schools to assess their possible inclusion among pilot schools for infrastructure restoration and management optimization. WFP initiated the new cycle of the School Meals Programme that will support 396,000 beneficiaries during the academic year September 2017 – June 2018.

Food Assistance for Assets: Food Assistance for Assets (FFA) programmes help meet immediate food needs of food insecure people through food, vouchers or cash transfers, while building community assets. As per the results of the first tender procedure on cash-based transfer (CBT) as assistance modality, WFP selected a financial provider for 20 districts in the southern and northern parts of the country. The project implementation will start in October.

Climate Change Adaptation: WFP supports global climate objectives to promote climate resilient development and reduce the risks induced by climate change. In June 2016, upon accreditation as a Multilateral Implementing Entity of the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and the request of the Government, WFP initiated the preparation of a project proposal for the GCF. As a result of National and District level consultations and assessments, a concept note was elaborated and successfully reviewed by the GCF secretariat. WFP in coordination with the Committee of Environmental Protection (CEP) designed a four year project on climate resilience of vulnerable and food insecure communities. WFP submitted the proposal to the Green Climate Fund for review and approval.

Highlights

- The Government of Tajikistan approved the Strategy of Sustainable Development of School Meals on September 28. WFP jointly with Social Industrial Foodservice Institute among other partners supports the government to elaborate a plan on implementation of the strategy.
- WFP presented the goals and objectives of USAID funded project on prevention and treatment of malnutrition programme in Khatlon regional nutrition forum.
- WFP presented its achievements in the spheres of Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and Emergency Response and Preparedness (EPRP) in the DRR national platform on September 27.

Emergency Preparedness: WFP supports Tajikistan’s emergency preparedness and response system by working with the government’s Committee for Emergency Situations (CoES) and other relevant agencies. Based on its solid experience in this sector, WFP is an active member of the national Rapid Emergency Assessment and Coordination Team and contributes to achieving objectives of the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction. In the framework of the signed MoU between the two partners WFP purchased ICT equipment for CoES to be handed over on Disaster Risk Reduction day, October 13.

Treatment and Prevention of Malnutrition: [Tajikistan has the worst nutrition indicators in Central Asia](#). Every year more than 5,000 children are enrolled in a WFP-supported supplementary feeding programme treating moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) in selected Primary Health Care Centres. WFP prepared the Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition (IMAM) guidelines and is working to scale up the prevention of chronic and acute malnutrition, subject to resources and funding availability. WFP co-chairs the Food Security and Nutrition Development Coordination Council, and advocates for nutritional goals within the framework of the Scale UP Nutrition (SUN) movement. Currently WFP is developing communication materials for awareness raising purposes.

In Numbers

715,000 people in need of food assistance

(Estimated number of the vulnerable rural population classified as in Crisis Phase according to IPC in 2016)

397,762
People Assisted
September 2017



Operational Updates

- [The Food Security Monitoring System \(FSMS\) Round 19 bulletin](#) has been published and disseminated. The nutrition analysis has been done in collaboration with UNICEF. The data collected from April to May 2017 showed that the food security has steadily deteriorated. The prevalence of food insecure group (moderately and severely insecure households) has increased in the past few years. In April-May 2017, 5 percent of the surveyed households were severely food insecure, and 28 percent were moderately food insecure. This is a deterioration compared with the same season in 2016. Next FSMS is planned in December 2017.

IRM Updates

WFP started the Integrated Road Map (IRM) process which will lead to the preparation of the Country Strategic Plan (CSP) to be submitted to the Executive Board in mid-2019. The Ministry of Economic Development and Trade (MEDT) has nominated the Institute of the Economics and Demography to conduct the Country Strategic Review. WFP received the technical and financial proposal from the Institute, which is in the process of translation and review.

Challenges

- WFP Tajikistan urgently requires USD 2.8 million to implement activities in country from October 2017 to March 2018.
- WFP requires USD 8.4 million to support only School Meals Programme for the next 12 months.
- Due to funding constrains since 2012, WFP is impelled to further reduce the daily food entitlement to children under the School Meals Programme, starting in September. This has resulted in a low macro- and micro-nutrient intake provided to children. WFP's planned Tuberculosis activity has also been halted due to a lack of available resources.
- WFP has 40 mt of food commodities allocated for emergency response as a preparedness measure, which allows to support 1,500 people over a period of two months. Given warning of possible severe mudflows in the following months and lead up to winter, WFP urgently requires more funding for a potentially larger emergency response.
- Total Country Programme (CP) funding needed is USD 79.4 million. With USD 20.7 million received so far, only 26 percent of the CP requirements are funded.

Country Background & Strategy



Tajikistan is a landlocked, lower-middle income, food deficit country with a population of approximately eight million, three quarters of whom live in rural areas. The mountainous landscape confines arable land to just seven percent of the country's surface and poses enormous challenges to food security during the winter period.

The country is the poorest in the Commonwealth of Independent States, with 47 percent of the population living on less than USD 1.33 a day and 17 percent subsisting on less than USD 0.85 a day.

The majority of the rural population spends between 70-80 percent of their income on food, despite this, around one fifth of the population is affected by food insecurity. According to the 2016 Global Hunger Index, Tajikistan tops malnutrition among the former Soviet Union republics with the stunting rate at 26.8 percent and wasting rate at 9.9 percent.

WFP has been present in Tajikistan since 1993. Moving away from crisis assistance, WFP's strategy in Tajikistan has been increasingly emphasizing support to national social protection and safety nets; nutrition; and resilience building and disaster risk reduction.

Population: **8.8 million**

2015 Human Development Index: **129 out of 188**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

Chronic malnutrition: **26% of children between 6-59 months**

Donors

The Russian Federation; USA; Private Donors (the Earth Group); and UN Peacebuilding Fund.