



WFP Kyrgyz Republic Country Brief

WFP Assistance

Optimising Primary School Meals Programme in the Kyrgyz Republic	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6 Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
DEV 200176 (Feb 2013 – Dec 2017)	15.9 m	12.8 m (81%)	0

*November 2017-April 2018

GENDER MARKER 2A  DEV 200176

In 2013, WFP began its four-year Optimising School Meals Programme to strengthen the Kyrgyz Government's capacity to improve the quality and efficiency of the existing national school meals programme.

Following the 2014 government endorsement of a new school meals policy, the Government, with the support of WFP and the Russian NGO, the Social and Industrial Foodservice Institute (SIFI), established a strategic direction for the development of the national school meals programme until 2025. This project provides assistance to both boys and girls, who equally benefit from school meals.

WFP assists around 90,000 children and 334 schools under the pilot project, with enhanced capacities to manage school meals, diversify school menus, support the upgrading of related school infrastructure, improve the efficiency of procurement and develop school gardens.

To ensure the sustainability of the school meals project, WFP supplies fortified wheat flour, while the Government covers the remaining 87 percent of school meal costs. The project is implemented in coordination with the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Health and with technical support from SIFI and other NGO partners.

Support for National Productive Safety Nets and Long-Term Community Resilience	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6 month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
DEV 200662 (July 2014 – Dec 2017)	26.6 m	29.7 m (112%)	0

*November 2017-April 2018

In mid-2014, WFP launched a productive safety nets and long-term community resilience project to enhance the Government's capacity to contribute to sustainable food security, nutrition and resilience among the poorest and most food insecure groups. The project focuses on rural

Highlights

- On 06 October 2017, WFP and the National Strategic Institute for Strategic Studies launched the Safety Nets Alert Platform (SNAP) system, an [online platform](#) that can forecast food security crises before they become critical. SNAP will be used to further inform national risk assessment and contribute to preparedness measures.

development, social protection, disaster risk management, climate change adaptation and gender equality. Gender equality is supported through emphasis on women's leadership and economic empowerment in rural areas. The project supported 2,700 different activities in 180 sub-districts across the country and aimed to impact more than 400,000 beneficiaries both directly and indirectly across the lifecycle of the project by the end of October 2017.

WFP provides capacity development and technical assistance to the Government, in particular the Ministry of Labour and Social Development, including support for policy formulation in social protection, food security and nutrition, disaster risk management and climate change adaptation. WFP helped introduce the National Food Security Atlas and an Inter-Agency Technical Working Group on Price Monitoring for Food Security. WFP supports the development and implementation of the National Food Security and Nutrition Programme, jointly with FAO and UNICEF.

At the field level, WFP builds resilience and improves livelihoods of the most vulnerable through creation and restoration of assets, such as disaster mitigation infrastructures, roads, irrigation and drinking water systems. WFP applies the Three-Pronged Approach (3PA): Integrated Context Analysis; Seasonal Livelihood Programming; and Community Consultations. The latter is utilised to design and implement long-term community food security projects.

WFP supports income generation, particularly of vulnerable women, through vegetable production and the creation of fruit plots, and is currently piloting productive measures of a social development approach in two sub-districts which focus on the creation of sustainable income sources. This will ensure the transition of activities from protective measures to productive activities in order to enhance the economic growth of poor families, develop infrastructure and invest in human capital.

In Numbers

25,678 schoolchildren assisted

40,971 people assisted under DEV 200662

People Assisted
October 2017



Operational Updates

- On 04 October 2017, the Informal Consultations on the Kyrgyz Republic Country Strategic Plan (2018-2022) took place at WFP Headquarters, Rome. The regional overview and introductory speech was delivered by the RBC Deputy Regional Director, Mr. Carlo Scaramella, with WFP Country Director answering questions via telephone. Later in October, WFP Country Director met with the Minister of Labour and Social Development and the Minister of Education and Science of the Kyrgyz Republic and discussed the way forward for CSP 2018-2022.
- On 06 October 2017, WFP and the National Strategic Institute for Strategic Studies have launched Safety Nets Alert Platform (SNAP) system, an online platform that can forecast food security crises before they become critical. The system creates multiple food security scenarios based on food price spikes caused by natural disasters, conflicts or socio-economic crises. It was developed with funding from the Government of Japan.
- 09-13 October 2017, the Deputy Head of Office for the President of the Kyrgyz Republic, Ms. Mira Karybaeva, as part of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) shared the experience of the Kyrgyz Republic on the role of agriculture and food security in contributing to sustaining peace and conflict prevention.
- On October 30, WFP signed a letter of agreement with the Bishkek City Administration on the optimization of school meals. The document was signed by the Mayor of the capital Mr. Ibraimov and the WFP Country Director Mr. Andrea Bagnoli. It is a roadmap for optimizing school meals in city schools.
- In October, WFP actively participated in organizing UN Day and World Food Day in Bishkek and in Osh in cooperation with FAO, UNDP, UNICEF, UN WOMEN and OHCHR. WFP ensured wide media coverage of the event, which included a culinary master class, harvest fair and a flash mob to promote nutrition.

Partnerships

- The school meals project is implemented in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and Science, the Ministry of Health, with support from SIFI and local NGOs, including the Agency of Development Initiatives, and Centre for Activation and Development of Village Initiatives.
- Under the Productive Safety Nets project, WFP partners with the Ministries of Labour and Social Development; Emergency Situations; Agriculture; the State Agency for Environment Protection and Forestry; the Vocational Education Agency; the National Statistics Committee; and National Institute of Strategic Studies.
- WFP, in partnership with FAO and UNICEF, co-chairs the Agriculture, Food Security and Rural Development, and Social Protection working groups of the Development Partners' Coordination Council (DPCC). WFP, FAO and UNICEF assisted the Government in developing a national food security and nutrition programme, and are working together in the Scaling-up Nutrition (SUN) movement.
- Under the Rural Women's Economic Empowerment (RWEE) project, WFP is working together with FAO, UN WOMEN, and IFAD to advocate for the increased rights and economic opportunities of rural women in the Kyrgyz Republic.

Country Background & Strategy



Since gaining independence in 1991, political volatility, economic shocks and frequent natural disasters have threatened development gains in the Kyrgyz Republic. While the country is on an upward development trajectory, it still faces serious challenges. The poverty rate stands at 25.4 percent in 2016, and around 1.5 million people live below the poverty line.

Two-thirds of the Kyrgyz Republic's 6 million multi-ethnic population live in rural areas, which are the poorest areas. In the country, 12.9 percent (Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey, 2014) of children under 5 suffer from stunting and 43 percent (Demographic and Health Survey, 2012) suffer from anaemia. As of 2016, GDP per capita stands at USD 1,077 (World Bank). The country's high dependency on the import of basic foodstuffs, particularly wheat, continues to impact the most vulnerable food insecure households, who spend over half of their household income on food.

WFP pursues three key objectives in the country: 1) to strengthen social safety nets to improve food security and nutrition; 2) to improve and diversify rural livelihoods by increasing income opportunities, food security and nutrition at the household level; 3) enhance the capacity of rural communities to cope with shocks, including natural or man-made disasters. WFP contribution to these areas includes support to policies and systems and field level interventions.

WFP has been present in the Kyrgyz Republic since 2008.

Population: **6 million**

2016 Human Development Index: **120 out of 188**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

2015 Gender Inequality Index: **90 out of 159**

Donors

Japan, the Netherlands, Norway, the Republic of Korea, the Russia Federation, Sweden the United Kingdom, and PepsiCo Foundation

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