



# 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	20.1 m (25%)	1.3 m

\*July- December 2017

**GENDER MARKER 2A** CP 200813

**School Meals:** WFP's 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. While the schools are on summer break, WFP and partners visited a number of schools to assess their possible inclusion among pilots for infrastructure restoration and management optimization.

**Food Assistance for Assets:** Food Assistance for Assets (FFA) programmes help meet immediate food needs of food insecure people while building community assets. Communities contribute to sustainable livelihoods by working on assets, using food, vouchers or cash transfers as incentive. 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 southern and northern parts of the country. In June WFP re-announced the tender to cover the remaining target areas of the country. The deadline is set on July 31, 2017.

**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 WFP accreditation as a Multilateral Implementing Entity of the Green Climate Fund (GFC) and the request of the Government, WFP initiated the process of preparing proposal for the GFC project. As a result of the National and District level consultations and assessments by several missions of Climate Change experts from WFP Headquarter and Regional Bureau, a concept note was elaborated and successfully reviewed by the GCF secretariat. Following this and successful cooperation with government

## Highlights

- Following the joint assessment conducted with the Committee for Emergency Situations (CoES), WFP Tajikistan provided immediate food assistance to the households affected by mudflows in Panjakent on June 29-30.
- WFP Tajikistan signed a contribution agreement for allocation of USD 1,250,000 from USAID for implementation of the Prevention and Treatment of Moderate Acute Malnutrition project in the country. USAID has confirmed allocation of USD 400,000 for 2017-2018 and pledged the remaining USD 850,000 for 2018-2020.
- WFP Tajikistan submitted a project proposal to the Green Climate Fund (GFC) on climate resilience of vulnerable and food insecure communities designed in collaboration with the National Committee of Environmental Protection.

counterparts, WFP in coordination with the Committee of Environmental Protection (CEP) designed a four year project on climate resilience of vulnerable and food insecure communities. In June WFP submitted the proposal to the Green Climate Fund for review and approval.

**Emergency Preparedness:** WFP supports Tajikistan's emergency preparedness and response system, working with the government's Committee for Emergency Situations 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. On June 26, following the mudflows in Panjakent (North) WFP dispatched and distributed more than 6 MT of mixed food commodities to the worst affected 83 Households comprising some 500 people. WFP conducted an assessment of the Geographic Information System (GIS) and mapping capacity of the Information and Analytical Centre (IMAC) of the Committee of Emergency Situations (CoES). The assessment defined needs for effective disaster information management cycle, including ICT and other advanced equipment. Following the Rapid Emergency Assessment Coordination Team's (REACT) meeting of June 19, the assessment was shared with partners for their consideration.

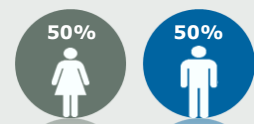
**Treatment and Prevention of Malnutrition:** [Tajikistan has the worst nutrition indicators in Central Asia](#). Every year more than 5,000 children are enrolled in a WFP-supported supplementary feeding programme treating moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) in selected Primary Health Care Centres.

## 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)

**225,376**  
People Assisted  
June 2017



**Main Photo** Credit: WFP  
Caption: Food distribution for the mudflows affected population in Panjakent (2017).



June 2017

WFP undertook the process of developing Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition (IMAM) guidelines and is working to scale up the prevention of chronic and acute malnutrition, contingent upon resources and funding. WFP co-chairs the Food Security and Nutrition Development Coordination Council, and advocates for nutritional goals throughout the framework of the Scale UP Nutrition (SUN) movement in country. In June, project proposal on Prevention and Treatment of Moderate Acute Malnutrition was approved by USAID, and signed a contribution agreement for allocation of USD 1.25 m. WFP has already started cooperation with the Ministry of Health and Social Protection in this sphere. Additionally WFP is getting ready for the 2<sup>nd</sup> National Nutrition Forum to be conducted in July. <sup>Panjakent</sup>

## Operational Updates

- Several FFA project proposals have been submitted by the field offices and the most relevant ones have been pre-selected for final project development.
- The Food Security Monitoring System (FSMS) Round 19 bulletin has been drafted and the analytical results are available. The nutrition analysis has been done in collaboration with UNICEF.

## Challenges

- WFP Tajikistan urgently requires USD 1.3 million to implement activities under the Country Programme, in order to provide assistance over the next six months, July - December 2017.
- WFP requires USD 7.9 million to support national School Meals programme for the next 12 months.
- WFP has 40 mt of food commodities allocated for emergency response, which allows to support only 1,500 people over a period of two months. Given the warning of possible severe mudflows in the following months, WFP requires more funding to allocate to emergency response.
- The total project funding need is USD 79.4 million. With USD 20.1 million received, so far 25.3% of the project needs are funded.
- Due to funding limitations, school meals and FFA activities are operational with reduction in entitlements and coverage while the TB activity is put on hold. With the available resources, WFP was forced to reduce daily ration to children under the school meals programme, resulting in a lower macro- and micro-nutrient intake provided to children. Furthermore, without additional funding, WFP will not be able to provide timely assistance to moderate acute malnourished children under 5 as of October 2017.

## 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 latest round of the Food Security Monitoring System (April-May 2017) showed that the food security has steadily deteriorated even though the seasonal trend is observed for the food secure group. The prevalence of food insecure group (moderately and severely insecure households) has increased in trend 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. The food insecurity prevalence was 40 percent for households headed by a woman, while it was 32 percent for household headed by a man. The FSMS bulletin will be available in July 2017 and the next FSMS has been planned in December 2017.

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 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 findings of the 2016 Global Hunger Index (GHI) and FAO, Tajikistan tops malnutrition among the former Soviet republics. GHI indicates the stunting rate to be 26.8 percent and wasting rate to be 9.9 percent in Tajikistan (source: DHS, 2012).

WFP has been present in Tajikistan since 1993.

Population: **8.35 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, The Earth Group, [Japan Association](#) for WFP and the UN Peacebuilding Fund.

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