



Standard Project Report 2015

World Food Programme in Kyrgyz Republic (KG)

Support to National Productive Safety Nets and Longer-Term Community Resilience

Reporting period: 1 January - 31 December 2015

Project Information	
Project Number	200662
Project Category	Development Project
Overall Planned Beneficiaries	274,000
Planned Beneficiaries in 2015	89,000
Total Beneficiaries in 2015	98,818

Key Project Dates	
Project Approval Date	June 06, 2014
Planned Start Date	July 01, 2014
Actual Start Date	September 01, 2014
Project End Date	December 31, 2016
Financial Closure Date	N/A

Approved budget in USD	
Food and Related Costs	10,744,795
Capacity Dev.t and Augmentation	3,120,248
Direct Support Costs	2,911,627
Cash-Based Transfers and Related Costs	1,695,200
Indirect Support Costs	1,293,031
Total	19,764,901

Commodities	Metric Tonnes
Planned Commodities in 2015	3,791
Actual Commodities 2015	3,323
Total Approved Commodities	12,013

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COUNTRY OVERVIEW



Country Background

The Kyrgyz Republic is a mountainous, landlocked country that gained independence in 1991. With a GDP per capita of USD 1,200 in 2014, ranking 120 out of 188 countries in the 2015 UNDP Human Development Index and 67 out of 155 in the UNDP Gender Inequality Index, over two thirds of its multi-ethnic population of 6 million live in rural areas. Malnutrition and micronutrient deficiencies are widespread with an anaemia prevalence of 43 percent among the children under 5 and 39 percent among pregnant women (Demographic and Health Survey, 2012), which is considered of severe public health significance, and almost 13 percent of children under 5 suffer from stunting (Kyrgyzstan Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS), 2014). Maternal mortality rates are high, exceeding 49 deaths per 100,000 live births, hindering progress to achieve Millennium Development Goal (MDG) 5, improved maternal health. These health and nutrition indicators reflect the underlying risks faced by the poor and food-insecure. Although the Kyrgyz Republic was able to reduce the extreme poverty level in MDG 1, radical reduction of extreme poverty, the poverty rate continues to be above 30 percent with 1.8 million people living below the poverty line. Provincial variations in poverty persist, with the south of the country being much poorer than the north.

Political volatility, economic shocks and frequent natural disasters continue to threaten development gains. The country is highly dependent upon the importation of basic food commodities, particularly wheat, and the price of domestic wheat flour has remained at a near-record high throughout 2015, with the price 6 percent higher than in 2014. The Kyrgyz Som has depreciated by 25 percent year-on-year, having a heavy impact on the most vulnerable households who spend over half of their income on food.

The overall access to primary education is high while enrollment rates remain high and there are minimal disparities between gender or regions.

Agriculture remains the main livelihood source for most rural households. However, insufficient and outdated infrastructure and technology hinder productivity levels. Combined with a lack of employment opportunities, this has resulted in a constant flow of outward migration, leaving many rural households highly dependent upon uncertain remittances. Almost a third of GDP in the Kyrgyz Republic is generated from remittances (World Bank, 2014), but the ongoing geopolitical crisis and recession of the Russian economy has resulted in a 31 percent drop since 2014 (National Bank, 2015).

Summary Of WFP Assistance

Aligned with WFP's Strategic Objectives 3 and 4, WFP pursued three key objectives in the Kyrgyz Republic: 1) strengthen social safety nets to improve food security and nutrition; 2) improve and diversify rural livelihoods by increasing income opportunities, food security and nutrition at the household level; and 3) enhance the capacity of rural communities to cope with shocks, including natural or man-made disasters. WFP strengthened these areas by contributing to policies, systems and field level interventions.

In January 2013, WFP launched development project (DEV 200176), a four-year programme, to optimise primary school meals; the new school meals policy was formulated and supported by Russian non-governmental organization (NGO), the Social and Industrial Foodservice Institute (SIFI). A pilot activity providing nutritious and affordable meals to children in food insecure areas is continuing. It built the capacity of school administrations, local authorities and communities to manage school feeding more effectively, whilst rehabilitating school infrastructure. The policy set a strategic direction for development of the national school meals programme until 2025.

WFP launched DEV 200662, a new 30-month development project in mid-2014, 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 development, social protection, and disaster risk management and climate change adaptation. In these areas, support is provided to policy development, systems optimization and field level interventions through building resilience and improving livelihoods of the most vulnerable.

Development of government capacity in the area of food security continued with support toward climate risk and food security analysis, which included monthly price monitoring bulletins and a Food Security Atlas.

These activities contribute to meeting MDG 1, eradicate extreme poverty and hunger, MDG 2, achieve universal primary education, MDG 3, promote gender equality and empower women, and MDG 7, ensure environmental sustainability. These MDGs were aligned with the government's National Sustainable Development Strategy (NSDS) 2013-2017, which focused on agriculture, social protection, education, health, environmental protection and disaster risk reduction.

Beneficiaries	Male	Female	Total
Children (under 5 years)	9,625	9,746	19,371
Children (5-18 years)	55,870	55,648	111,518
Adults (18 years plus)	23,925	23,780	47,705
Total number of beneficiaries in 2015	89,420	89,174	178,594

Distribution (mt)						
Project Type	Cereals	Oil	Pulses	Mix	Other	Total
Development Project	3,518	281	0	0	0	3,799
Total Food Distributed in 2015	3,518	281	0	0	0	3,799

OPERATIONAL SPR

Operational Objectives and Relevance

Aligned with WFP's Strategic Objective 3 and UNDAF pillars - Social Inclusion and Equity, and Inclusive and Sustainable Job-Rich Growth for Poverty Reduction - the Development Project (DEV 200662) sought to enhance the government's capacity to contribute to sustainable food security, nutrition and resilience among the poorest groups, focusing on rural development, disaster risk management and climate change adaptation. Efforts to achieve food security, improve nutrition and support vulnerable groups were undermined by limitations in social protection. WFP has supported the government in the development of policies and strategies to tackle this, and for increased capacity to manage productive safety nets to support long-term resilience. The project had a nutrition-sensitive approach, with support for advocacy, food fortification, integration of nutrition into social protection, diversification of food consumption, links with school feeding and engagement in the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) movement.

WFP pursued the objective of building community resilience through food assistance interventions at household and community levels, and by emphasizing direct and complementary partnerships. In this area, WFP provided technical support to the development of the National Food Security Atlas and an Interagency Technical Working Group on Price Monitoring for Food Security. The project supported the National Food Security and Nutrition Programme, with FAO and UNICEF, emphasizing comprehensive coverage of all food security dimensions, and supported formulation of the National Social Protection Programme (2015-2017). This ensured that the project was aligned with the National Sustainable Development Strategy (2013–2017). The improved access to livelihood assets contributed to enhanced resilience and reduced risks from disaster and shocks faced by targeted food-insecure communities and households. It also ensured that the risk reduction capacity of the Kyrgyz Republic and its institutions were strengthened.

Results

Beneficiaries, Targeting and Distribution

The WFP Development Project provided technical and material support to national and local government to enhance social protection mechanisms, which improved the food security and nutrition and resilience of vulnerable households, communities and institutions. This helped communities to meet both immediate needs and achieve longer-term food security and nutrition and better manage recurrent shocks and stresses. A key aspect of the project at the field level was the piloting of a series of food assistance for asset (FFA) schemes and food for training (FFT) activities.

The beneficiaries were from populations who were food insecure, had low incomes and limited access to productive assets, such as water, land or livestock. Geographical targeting in these rural areas was based on a household food security analysis, which prioritized provinces with a high prevalence of food insecurity, poverty and recurrent natural shocks. In 2015, economic shocks such as fluctuations in remittances and currency values placed a large number of households at risk of food insecurity and increased the number of beneficiaries requiring assistance under this project.

WFP, jointly with the Ministry of Labour and Social Development, completed the process of selecting the most vulnerable areas for intervention. WFP applied the three-pronged approach (3PA) to identify the most vulnerable communities and to inform the design and planning of longer-term food security and resilience projects, which comprised three tools: Integrated Context Analysis (ICA), seasonal livelihood programming (SLP) and community consultations. This helped to establish the food security and resilience baseline, and to identify strategic interventions in target communities and enabled the implementation of local level activities.

By the end of 2015, WFP prioritized 342 projects across 80 sub-districts, where consultations were conducted by 80 project committees with the participation of committee members representing the District Social Development Department, key specialists of local authorities and organizations, village heads, active community members and cooperating partners (CPs).

Vulnerable households were provided with food assistance to undertake livelihood asset creation or rehabilitation activities, skills development, income generation or disaster risk reduction activities, which were determined based on community needs. Sub-district level project committees took responsibility for conducting needs assessments,

preparing project proposals and participant lists, conducting community meetings, raising project awareness, managing food distributions and ensuring that activities were implemented according to plans and project requirements. The needs assessment process involved two inter-related phases: technical consultations at the project committee level to undertake a preliminary identification of priority needs and actions with local authorities and other stakeholders; and identification and validation of priority needs with community members through focus group discussions. This ensured a solid technical approach toward planning and full community participation in the identification, targeting and design of interventions.

The food basket for FFA activities consisted of fortified wheat flour and fortified vegetable oil and is equivalent to 2100 kcal per person per day. The total amount of food assistance provided depended on the number of training days or the volume of work undertaken for asset creation and rehabilitation. Overall, WFP reached more beneficiaries than planned as a result of engagement of a larger number of participants in training activities whilst distributing less food than planned due to the shorter duration of the courses.

Due to the lack of contributions toward the cash-based transfer component of the project, no beneficiaries were reached through cash-based transfer mechanisms. Those areas identified for possible cash-based transfers were provided with food assistance to meet food security and nutrition needs, which were well received by beneficiaries.

Beneficiary Category	Planned			Actual			% Actual v. Planned		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Total Beneficiaries	44,500	44,500	89,000	49,053	49,765	98,818	110.2%	111.8%	111.0%
By Age-group:									
Children (under 5 years)	8,010	8,900	16,910	9,625	9,746	19,371	120.2%	109.5%	114.6%
Children (5-18 years)	16,020	15,130	31,150	15,504	16,239	31,743	96.8%	107.3%	101.9%
Adults (18 years plus)	20,470	20,470	40,940	23,924	23,780	47,704	116.9%	116.2%	116.5%
By Residence status:									
Residents	44,500	44,500	89,000	49,014	49,804	98,818	110.1%	111.9%	111.0%

Activity	Planned			Actual			% Actual v. Planned		
	Food	CBT	Total	Food	CBT	Total	Food	CBT	Total
Food-Assistance-for-Assets	77,000	12,000	89,000	98,818	-	98,818	128.3%	-	111.0%

Beneficiary Category	Planned			Actual			% Actual v. Planned		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Food-Assistance-for-Assets									
People participating in asset-creation activities	8,900	8,900	17,800	9,224	7,895	17,119	103.6%	88.7%	96.2%
Total participants	8,900	8,900	17,800	9,224	7,895	17,119	103.6%	88.7%	96.2%
Total beneficiaries	44,500	44,500	89,000	49,053	49,765	98,818	110.2%	111.8%	111.0%

The total number of beneficiaries includes all targeted persons who were provided with WFP food/cash/vouchers during the reporting period - either as a recipient/participant or from a household food ration distributed to one of these recipients/participants.

Commodity	Planned Distribution (mt)	Actual Distribution (mt)	% Actual v. Planned
Vegetable Oil	325	281	86.3%
Wheat Flour	3,466	3,043	87.8%
Total	3,791	3,323	87.7%

Cash-Based Transfer	Planned Distribution USD	Actual Distribution USD	% Actual v. Planned
Cash	637,200	-	-
Voucher	-	-	-
Total	637,200	-	-

Story Worth Telling

Although nutrition training for vulnerable Kyrgyz rural women has few similarities with a Gordon Ramsay cookery show, participants demonstrate the same level of passion and commitment. While their television-peers compete for titles and prize money, Kyrgyz participants' incentive is the need to feed their families affordable nutritious meals.

Nutrition training is a crosscutting component of the WFP's projects in the Kyrgyz Republic aimed at improving the nutritional status of vulnerable households, particularly rural women. In 2015, WFP piloted the nutrition training in Naryn for a group of women farmers with a plan to scale up to reach most FFA and FFT participants in 2016.

The training included key principles of nutrition, micronutrients, food groups and their functions, whilst teaching women how to cook nutritious meals with their local and seasonally available produce such as pumpkin, beans and cottage cheese. WFP food incentives of fortified wheat flour and fortified vegetable oil created further stimulus for women to improve their nutrition knowledge and practices.

"I didn't imagine that food could be so diverse and tasty with very simple and cheap ingredients," remarked Nursaira Abdrakhmanova, a nutrition-training participant. "Our normal diet was very monotonous. Although we grew many varieties of vegetables, we did not know before now what healthy meals could be produced with them."

Progress Towards Gender Equality

Project management committees continued to be formed to assess needs, identify schemes and mobilize assistance in target locations. Gender was taken into consideration in the needs assessment process and was reflected in the design and implementation of project activities which included focusing on activities that were inclusive such as vegetable production, small medium enterprises such as sewing and hairdressing, and bakery training.

During initial provincial level workshops, just under half of the participants were women, who played an important role in the analysis of the causes of food insecurity and in long-term project planning. At the stage of community consultations, WFP ensured that women's voices were heard and taken into account in planning and decision making processes. Nearly 80 percent of project committee leaders at the sub-district level were women, a twofold increase since 2014. This was due to the expansion of the project committees from 27 to 80 in the target areas of vulnerable households identified by WFP. These committees focused on identifying local needs and determining how to formulate joint and complementarity actions between the government, development partners and WFP. The committees were responsible for designing, implementing, monitoring and evaluating livelihood and resilience schemes, and set up with technical assistance from WFP and partners.

WFP continued activities focused on gender specific interventions aimed at increasing incomes and improving the diets of households headed by women; for example, by training vulnerable, food insecure women to develop their vegetable plots and fruit gardens, improve value chains and establish links to processors and exporters. These activities included skills training, use of appropriate agricultural inputs, and establishment of self-help groups and revolving funds to ensure the longer-term sustainability of activities and to encourage autonomous self-replication in coming seasons. The self-help groups enabled women to take an active role in decision-making, build social capital and enhance their socio-economic status as they were able to undertake their own income generating activities, work together and utilise their own resources. Post-project monitoring results confirmed an increase in crop productivity and diversity among these households and improved access to local processing cooperatives after

participation in the project.

Under the umbrella of a joint development project, WFP, alongside UN Women, FAO and IFAD implemented the Rural Women Economic Empowerment (RWEE) project to empower rural women through economic, leadership and policy activities. Field level activities involved support to women vegetable producers, through joint inputs from all four United Nations partners. WFP jointly with CPs accomplished the selection of areas, applied beneficiary targeting criteria, launched preparation of training modules and modalities, identified implementing partners and purchased food commodities to be distributed to 1,500 project participants, planned for February 2016.

Cross-cutting Indicators	Project End Target	Base Value	Previous Follow-up	Latest Follow-up
Proportion of households where females and males together make decisions over the use of cash, voucher or food				
<i>KYRGYZSTAN, Food-Assistance-for-Assets , Project End Target: 2016.12 , Base value: 2014.11 , Latest Follow-up: 2015.11</i>	=50.00	51.00		33.00
Proportion of households where females make decisions over the use of cash, voucher or food				
<i>KYRGYZSTAN, Food-Assistance-for-Assets , Project End Target: 2016.12 , Base value: 2014.11 , Latest Follow-up: 2015.11</i>	=25.00	26.00		40.00
Proportion of households where males make decisions over the use of cash, voucher or food				
<i>KYRGYZSTAN, Food-Assistance-for-Assets , Project End Target: 2016.12 , Base value: 2014.11 , Latest Follow-up: 2015.11</i>	=25.00	23.00		27.00
Proportion of women beneficiaries in leadership positions of project management committees				
<i>KYRGYZSTAN, Food-Assistance-for-Assets , Project End Target: 2016.12 , Base value: 2014.11 , Latest Follow-up: 2015.12</i>	>50.00	30.18		79.00
Proportion of women project management committee members trained on modalities of food, cash, or voucher distribution				
<i>KYRGYZSTAN, Food-Assistance-for-Assets , Project End Target: 2016.12 , Base value: 2014.12 , Latest Follow-up: 2015.12</i>	>60.00	34.00		45.00

Protection and Accountability to Affected Populations

No beneficiaries reported that they experienced safety problems traveling to the distribution points, waiting for their entitlements or travelling home. WFP ensured security by arranging distribution sites during the daytime and near target communities; just a small number of respondents travelled more than 10 km to and from the distribution site.

The distribution sites were well managed, as beneficiaries reported that food quality was in general, high, with only small number of people reporting that they waited for a long time (over one hour) to receive their entitlements. The beneficiaries understood that they were required to present identification papers in order to receive their entitlements, which was adhered to by the vast majority of respondents.

Prior to activities commencing, meetings took place with communities, local authorities and other local stakeholders to ensure a full understanding of the project, particularly aspects such as the beneficiary and asset selection criteria, how commodity benefits and work norms were calculated. Monitoring results indicated that the most of respondents confirmed that the meetings took place and that they received an explanation of project implementation mechanisms.

As a consequence of the information provided, two thirds of the post distribution monitoring (PDM) survey respondents demonstrated awareness of WFP's assistance including targeting criteria as well as composition of their benefits. These beneficiaries were required to correctly identify all three components of the composite indicator, and there has been a slight improvement since 2014 (up from 62 percent). WFP has strengthened its public awareness within the target populations and by holding regular meetings and provided or installed visibility

materials to continue to inform the beneficiaries. During project implementation WFP, CPs and local authorities continued to meet with community leaders to resolve issues as they arose. These meetings primarily focused on questions regarding project processes and ensured closer attention to the issue of accountability to beneficiaries. This is reflected in other questions answered during PDM when over 99 percent of all surveyed respondents confirmed at the end of the distribution process that they had received the correct entitlement with 85 percent indicating their knowledge of the work norms and entitlement benefits. WFP has also developed a new beneficiary complaints mechanism in the form of a hotline to be launched in 2016 which will further increase control over project activities, facilitate monitoring of project satisfaction and support project management.

Cross-cutting Indicators	Project End Target	Base Value	Previous Follow-up	Latest Follow-up
Proportion of assisted people (men) informed about the programme (who is included, what people will receive, where people can complain) <i>KYRGYZSTAN, Food-Assistance-for-Assets , Project End Target: 2016.12 , Base value: 2014.11 , Latest Follow-up: 2015.11</i>	=90.00	62.00		65.00
Proportion of assisted people (men) who do not experience safety problems travelling to, from and/or at WFP programme site <i>KYRGYZSTAN, Food-Assistance-for-Assets , Project End Target: 2016.12 , Base value: 2014.11 , Latest Follow-up: 2015.11</i>	=100.00	100.00		100.00
Proportion of assisted people (women) informed about the programme (who is included, what people will receive, where people can complain) <i>KYRGYZSTAN, Food-Assistance-for-Assets , Project End Target: 2016.12 , Base value: 2014.11 , Latest Follow-up: 2015.11</i>	=90.00	60.00		71.00
Proportion of assisted people (women) who do not experience safety problems travelling to, from and/or at WFP programme sites <i>KYRGYZSTAN, Food-Assistance-for-Assets , Project End Target: 2016.12 , Base value: 2014.11 , Latest Follow-up: 2015.11</i>	=100.00	100.00		100.00
Proportion of assisted people informed about the programme (who is included, what people will receive, where people can complain) <i>KYRGYZSTAN, Food-Assistance-for-Assets , Project End Target: 2016.12 , Base value: 2014.11 , Latest Follow-up: 2015.11</i>	=90.00	62.00		66.00
Proportion of assisted people who do not experience safety problems travelling to, from and/or at WFP programme site <i>KYRGYZSTAN, Food-Assistance-for-Assets , Project End Target: 2016.12 , Base value: 2014.11 , Latest Follow-up: 2015.11</i>	=100.00	100.00		100.00

Outputs

WFP continued to expand its support to the food insecure and poor to help them meet both short-term needs and build sustainable livelihoods and resilience through capacity development and asset creation. Project activities focused on communities in five provinces and 80 sub-districts, which represented a significant expansion from the 27 sub-districts assisted in 2014. The sub-districts were progressively introduced into the project with the first round identified in late-2014, a second round in August 2015 and a third round in November 2015. Individual project schemes were more concentrated in the experienced first round sub-districts in order to maximize outputs.

In 2015, a further 80 project committees comprised of local authorities, community leaders and local partners were established and trained. They were responsible for the design, implementation, and monitoring of activities using participatory approaches, and for mobilizing support and contributions from local authorities, communities and donors, and forming linkages with other ongoing partner projects. Such an approach ensured an in-depth understanding of conditions and improved design of project activities to achieve longer-term socio-economic benefits for local authorities and communities as a whole. The results of the sub-district level consultations by

project committees were further adjusted and validated within the same communities through focus group discussions. The findings were widely shared with other development partners as a means to encourage partnership with others and provide a more holistic response to the needs of local communities.

The main focus of project schemes was on the restoration and rehabilitation of water irrigation systems (27 percent) followed by improving skills and techniques for vegetable production (25 percent). However, some of the planned projects under the FFA schemes were not completed and thus project targets not fully met. Building the capacities of some local authorities took longer than expected, and thus impacted implementation. Some activities only began later in the year due to challenges related to the identification of complementary funding by local authorities and communities, the availability of appropriate technical expertise from local authorities and CPs, and due to the varying onset of the winter season which limited the implementation of field works which led to the postponement of some works. WFP and the Ministry of Social Development, local authorities and CPs agreed to complete initiated projects in 2016, and to ensure provision of funding and necessary expertise to ensure quality implementation of asset rehabilitation and creation activities.

FFA schemes further sought to increasingly incorporate nutrition sensitive components into activities through inclusion of training on nutrition awareness. Such training was provided to FFA beneficiaries, and was complemented by training on disaster risk reduction, which were both seen as key requirements to improve the overall resilience of local communities. The training covered topics on the national system of civil protection, contingency planning, structural mitigation, early warning, evacuation and community-level activities. WFP started work with the government's Republican Health Centre to develop a uniform set of nutrition training modules for use by development partners and WFP in field level interventions.

Capacity development activities focused on Training-of-Trainers (ToT) sessions which were held for 135 specialists in 27 selected sub-districts in close partnership with other development entities. ToT sessions focused on areas of expertise already practiced within the sub-district to enable an enhancement of existing skills and practices, which included the introduction of new knowledge. Topics covered ranged from the creation of self-help groups and the legalization of land leases, to more advanced knowledge on vegetable production, water management, forestry and agro-forestry, value chain development and marketing. The trainees then held sessions within their own communities and at project sites to ensure that knowledge and skills were accessible to the wider population.

Output	Unit	Planned	Actual	% Actual vs. Planned
SO3: Food-Assistance-for-Assets				
Hectares (ha) of agricultural land benefiting from rehabilitated irrigation schemes (including irrigation canal repair, specific protection measures, embankments, etc)	Ha	61,770	47,289	76.6
Hectares (ha) of degraded hillsides and marginal areas rehabilitated with physical and biological soil and water conservation measures, planted with trees and protected (e.g. closure, etc)	Ha	95	75	78.8
Kilometres (km) of feeder roads rehabilitated and maintained	Km	89	47	53.2
Number of assets built, restored or maintained by targeted communities and individuals	asset	273	180	65.9
Number of bridges constructed	bridge	21	4	19.0
Number of bridges rehabilitated	bridge	19	12	63.2
Number of excavated community water ponds for domestic uses constructed (3000-15,000 cbmt)	water pond	5	4	80.0
Number of fish ponds constructed (FFA) and maintained (self-help)	fish pond	16	16	100.0
Number of sub-surface dams built/repared	site	8	6	75.0

Output	Unit	Planned	Actual	% Actual vs. Planned
Volume (m3) of irrigation canals constructed/rehabilitated	m3	846,837	596,451	70.4
Volume (m3) of earth dams and flood protection dikes constructed	m3	6,406	4,915	76.7
Volume (m3) of rock catchments constructed	m3	455,100	298,800	65.7
Volume (m3) of soil excavated from newly constructed waterways and drainage lines (not including irrigation canals)	m3	31,914	6,182	19.4
Volume (m3) of soil excavated from rehabilitated waterways and drainage lines (not including irrigation canals)	m3	20,024	9,211	46.0
SO3: Food-Assistance-for-Training				
Hectares (ha) of forests planted and established	Ha	254	236	92.9
Hectares (ha) of fruit trees planted	Ha	235	123	52.3
Hectares (ha) of vegetables planted	Ha	130	130	99.7
Number of people trained (Skills: Livelihood technologies)	individual	5,436	4,858	89.4
Number of people trained in hygiene promotion	individual	90	90	100.0
Number of technical assistance activities provided	activity	10	10	100.0

Outcomes

Using Food Security Outcome Monitoring (FSOM), WFP periodically gathered information to monitor results against baseline data collected during the inception of the project in 2014. With a focus on food security and resilience analysis, the key approach used was a historical trend analysis of indicators at the outcome level in project-supported and non-project supported communities. The FSOM was designed to monitor the impact on food security and longer-term resilience. However, it was noted that a number of key indicators would need to be monitored over a longer-term period to assess the full impact and benefit of activities.

The share of households with adequate Food Consumption Score (FCS) increased by more than a fifth in WFP-supported communities, whilst a minor increase was observed in non-WFP supported communities. This shows that the project began to have a positive impact on targeted communities through the selection and implementation of appropriate schemes in project areas. A continued monitoring of activities will provide further evidence of improved food and nutrition security and resilience in targeted communities.

Dietary Diversity Score (DDS) values in WFP supported communities were observed to have gradually increased, which contrasts with the trend among households in non-supported communities where levels dropped in June 2015, and then increased later in October 2015. This suggests that in June 2015, during the pre-harvest period, rural households in non-supported communities had seasonal difficulties in ensuring stable food access, while households in targeted communities had the chance to not only stabilize, but to improve their dietary diversity during the lean season.

Changes were observed in the Coping Strategy Index (CSI) food value, which implied that households in supported communities may have been required to sacrifice their normal consumption practices to meet minimum food intake requirements in terms of frequency of consumption and diversity. The increased CSI value (food) in supported communities indicated that households improved their diet for a short-term period, partially due to the use of food-related coping strategies.

The reduction in CSI (asset value) indicated that households were less prone, or were better able to respond to shocks and stresses. Gender-based differences were not evident.

In October 2015, at the first annual follow-up at the community level, it was revealed that community asset functionality increased through measurement of the Community Asset Score (CAS). This improvement in asset status was supported by evidence from the community that inputs made during the first year of project implementation were targeted at the most prioritized and useful assets in the communities. Overall, asset functionality increased in 77 percent of communities in October 2015.

A follow-up of community capacities to manage climatic risks and shocks showed that 82 percent of communities had improved their status. Capacities in the areas of early warning systems, contingency planning, community stocks, community assets and social capital were all assessed. Project activities to improve local level capacities through trainings on effective agriculture management, DRR and asset-related outputs, influenced the abilities of communities to manage shocks and risks.

WFP developed a country-specific methodology to measure the National Capacity Index (NCI) in the area of food security governance. In mid-2015, a gap assessment was undertaken and stakeholder consultations held to establish a baseline for the indicator and to plan further capacity development activities to address identified gaps. The NCI was measured through a consultative stakeholder review, with the baseline value set at a level of 2.5 (close to 'moderate' within a 1-4 scale (1-latent capacity, 4-self-sufficient capacity). A partial follow-up review is planned for the second half of 2016 and will be conducted through a stakeholder workshop. A full review of capacity levels will be conducted in the second half of 2017 with a target of increasing the baseline score significantly.

Outcome	Project End Target	Base Value	Previous Follow-up	Latest Follow-up
SO3 Reduce risk and enable people, communities and countries to meet their own food and nutrition needs				
Improved access to livelihood assets has contributed to enhanced resilience and reduced risks from disaster and shocks faced by targeted food-insecure communities and households				
CAS: percentage of communities with an increased Asset Score				
<i>KYRGYZSTAN , Project End Target: 2016.12 Community FGDs , Latest Follow-up: 2015.10 WFP programme monitoring Community FGDs</i>	=80.00		-	77.00
FCS: percentage of households with poor Food Consumption Score				
<i>KYRGYZSTAN , Project End Target: 2016.12 , Base value: 2014.11 WFP programme monitoring , Previous Follow-up: 2015.06 WFP programme monitoring , Latest Follow-up: 2015.10 WFP programme monitoring</i>	=3.00	16.00	6.00	1.00
FCS: percentage of households with borderline Food Consumption Score				
<i>KYRGYZSTAN , Project End Target: 2016.12 , Base value: 2014.11 WFP programme monitoring , Previous Follow-up: 2015.06 WFP programme monitoring , Latest Follow-up: 2015.10 WFP programme monitoring</i>	=3.00	15.00	10.00	8.00
FCS: percentage of households with poor Food Consumption Score (female-headed)				
<i>KYRGYZSTAN , Project End Target: 2016.12 , Base value: 2014.11 WFP programme monitoring , Previous Follow-up: 2015.06 WFP programme monitoring , Latest Follow-up: 2015.10 WFP programme monitoring</i>	=2.00	10.00	12.00	1.00
FCS: percentage of households with poor Food Consumption Score (male-headed)				
<i>KYRGYZSTAN , Project End Target: 2016.12 , Base value: 2014.11 WFP programme monitoring , Previous Follow-up: 2015.06 WFP programme monitoring , Latest Follow-up: 2015.10 WFP programme monitoring</i>	=3.00	17.00	4.00	1.00

Outcome	Project End Target	Base Value	Previous Follow-up	Latest Follow-up
FCS: percentage of households with borderline Food Consumption Score (female-headed)				
<i>KYRGYZSTAN , Project End Target: 2016.12 , Base value: 2014.11 WFP programme monitoring , Previous Follow-up: 2015.06 WFP programme monitoring , Latest Follow-up: 2015.10 WFP programme monitoring</i>	=3.00	17.00	10.00	9.00
FCS: percentage of households with borderline Food Consumption Score (male-headed)				
<i>KYRGYZSTAN , Project End Target: 2016.12 , Base value: 2014.11 WFP programme monitoring , Previous Follow-up: 2015.06 WFP programme monitoring , Latest Follow-up: 2015.10 WFP programme monitoring</i>	=3.00	14.00	10.00	8.00
Diet Diversity Score				
<i>KYRGYZSTAN , Project End Target: 2016.12 , Base value: 2014.11 WFP programme monitoring , Previous Follow-up: 2015.06 WFP programme monitoring , Latest Follow-up: 2015.06 WFP programme monitoring</i>	>5.90	5.90	6.40	6.40
Diet Diversity Score (female-headed households)				
<i>KYRGYZSTAN , Project End Target: 2016.12 , Base value: 2014.11 WFP programme monitoring , Previous Follow-up: 2015.06 WFP programme monitoring , Latest Follow-up: 2015.06 WFP programme monitoring</i>	>6.10	6.10	6.40	6.40
Diet Diversity Score (male-headed households)				
<i>KYRGYZSTAN , Project End Target: 2016.12 , Base value: 2014.11 WFP programme monitoring , Previous Follow-up: 2015.06 WFP programme monitoring , Latest Follow-up: 2015.10 WFP programme monitoring</i>	>5.80	5.80	6.40	6.90
CSI (Food): Coping Strategy Index (average)				
<i>KYRGYZSTAN , Project End Target: 2016.12 , Base value: 2014.11 WFP programme monitoring , Previous Follow-up: 2015.06 WFP programme monitoring , Latest Follow-up: 2015.10 WFP programme monitoring</i>	<2.10	2.10	3.50	2.50
CSI (Asset Depletion): Coping Strategy Index (average)				
<i>KYRGYZSTAN , Project End Target: 2016.12 , Base value: 2014.11 WFP programme monitoring , Previous Follow-up: 2015.06 WFP programme monitoring , Latest Follow-up: 2015.10 WFP programme monitoring</i>	<6.40	6.40	4.20	3.70
Risk reduction capacity of countries, communities and institutions strengthened				
NCI: Resilience programmes National Capacity Index				
<i>KYRGYZSTAN , Project End Target: 2016.12 Consultations and data review , Base value: 2015.07 WFP programme monitoring Consultations and data review</i>	>2.50	2.50	-	-
Proportion of targeted communities where there is evidence of improved capacity to manage climatic shocks and risks supported by WFP				
<i>KYRGYZSTAN , Project End Target: 2016.12 Community FGDs , Latest Follow-up: 2015.10 WFP programme monitoring Community FGDs</i>	=60.00		-	82.00

Sustainability, Capacity Development and Handover

The project was designed to move toward a sustainable management of social protection assistance by the government through inter-related policy and field level interventions. WFP provided support to the design of a National Food Security and Nutrition Programme for 2015-2017, together with FAO and UNICEF, which gives comprehensive attention to all four dimensions of food security. WFP further supported the formulation of the National Social Protection Programme for 2015-2017, which benefitted from WFP's inputs on access and utilization dimensions, including productive safety nets.

Additionally, WFP engaged in multi-partner efforts to support the government to enhance the use of existing safety net instruments, such as cash-based transfers under the monthly benefit for poor families with children. WFP and the Ministry of Labour and Social Development established an Inter-Ministerial Working Group to develop a Productive Safety Nets Programme for the government. WFP, jointly with National Institute for Strategic Studies (NISS), completed the first phase of an assessment of national capacities for Food Security Governance, the first step in developing a comprehensive Capacity Development Strategy for WFP and other stakeholders.

The project's field-based activities were designed to ensure sustainability by focusing on increasing local community participation in and contributions to activities, reinforcing the capacity of communities and local authorities in partnership with other stakeholders. By taking a more holistic approach to improving food security and nutrition through asset creation, income generation and local capacity and partnership development, WFP ensured that the most food insecure communities, those who were least resistant to shocks, could improve their food security, nutrition and resilience.

Significant capacity building of project committees sought to ensure that by the end of the project communities were able to function independently of WFP assistance, and continue in their development with strong support from local authorities and other CPs, within a national environment more supportive of their growth. For example, participants in many schemes were encouraged to form jamaats (groups) to jointly manage fruit gardens and forests, and to ensure proper creation and maintenance of assets, and establish linkages with market outlets and service providers.

WFP signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Ministry of Emergency Situations of the Kyrgyz Republic. The MoU will enhance collaboration between WFP and Ministry of Emergency Situations in implementing activities on disaster risk reduction at community level, improve information management systems and build the capacity of civil protection specialists, a vital component of a resilience-based approach to project activities that ensures steady progress in development results and achieves longer-term sustainability.

Capacity development interventions at the national level also played an important role in the management of food security and nutrition interventions. In 2015, a Food Security Atlas was launched by WFP and the Ministry of Agriculture to provide a comprehensive and timely reference for policy-makers and development practitioners in formulating appropriate programmes for vulnerable areas. This was achieved through the mapping and analysis of key food security and nutrition based on the four key dimensions of food security. The Atlas also provides a composite analysis, which helps to explain the overall characteristics of food security and nutrition in each area.

In June 2015, WFP and FAO initiated the establishment of a Technical Working Group (TWG) on price monitoring for food security, an interagency mechanism with the Ministry of Economics, the National Bank, the Ministry of Agriculture and the National Statistics Committee to support timely decision making related to food prices and food security. The TWG will regularly coordinate, monitor, analyse and report on food prices to ensure early detection of food price hikes. This commenced in September with the dissemination of monthly market monitoring for food security bulletins to key food security stakeholders at national and sub-national levels.

In August, based on the decree of the Minister of Labour and Social Development and with technical support from WFP, an Inter-Ministerial Working Group was formed, which adopted an additional mechanism of social protection namely, Productive Measures of Social Development (PMSD). The proposed national PMSD instrument will be based on WFP's current productive FFA and FFT activities. In December, ten ministries and agencies endorsed and signed a temporary regulation to launch an intensive PMSD pilot with WFP in two districts with an identified 20,000 poor and vulnerable members of the population.

WFP is also actively engaged in the Scaling-up Nutrition (SUN) Movement in close cooperation with UNICEF and regularly hosts in-country SUN network teleconferences. WFP and government representatives took an active part in the SUN Movement Global Gathering in Milan in October 2015 during which the Kyrgyz delegation presented the National Food Security and Nutrition Programme.

Inputs

Resource Inputs

The project received generous contributions from long-standing, supportive donors. Activities to support and enhance the government's capacity were complemented with funds from additional donors that fall outside this project and were implemented under the rural women economic empowerment project, jointly implemented with FAO, IFAD and UN Women.

Local authorities contributed to transportation and handling of food delivery under FFA and FFT projects. Local authorities and communities supported project planning, implementation and oversight. Local NGOs and other United Nations agencies provided tools, materials and technical support. Notably, WFP, FAO and UN Women collaborated to provide comprehensive, complementary training packages to rural women.

Donor	2015 Resourced (mt)		2015 Shipped/Purchased (mt)
	In-Kind	Cash	
Japan	0	187	0
Russian Federation	0	4,566	0
UN CERF Common Funds and Agencies	0	149	0
Total	0	4,901	0

See Annex: Resource Inputs from Donors for breakdown by commodity and contribution reference number

Food Purchases and In-Kind Receipts

Food procurement tenders for fortified wheat flour and fortified vegetable oil were conducted by WFP Headquarters. Fortified wheat flour was purchased in the regional market, primarily from Russia. Fortified vegetable oil was purchased in the international market and came from Estonia.

Commodities	Local (mt)	Developing Country (mt)	Other International (mt)	GCMF (mt)
Vegetable Oil	0	0	336	0
Wheat Flour	0	0	4,570	0
Total	0	0	4,905	0

Food Transport, Delivery and Handling

The commodities were purchased on delivery-at-place terms to railway stations in Bishkek and Osh cities where WFP warehouses are located. WFP was responsible for storage including warehouse management which was transferred by the government to WFP for the duration of this project. The handling of the food commodities at warehouses, transportation from WFP warehouses to final delivery points and offloading at destinations were covered by the government. Tendering for these services was conducted by the Ministry of Labour and Social Development based on distribution plans provided by WFP. At the initial stage, WFP supported the Ministry of Labour and Social Development through hiring a local procurement expert to facilitate conclusion of the first tenders for transportation/stevedoring services in accordance with state procurement regulations and rules. In addition, WFP supported the Ministry of Labour and Social Development in defining contract terms and conditions to ensure quality control. Tenders for the movement of food cargos from railway stations to WFP warehouses, fumigation, disinfestation and food monitoring services were conducted by WFP in line with WFP requirements

Post-Delivery Losses

Minimal losses were encountered during the reporting period. Losses incurred were mainly due to the submission of food samples for laboratory testing, in line with national customs procedures and to the deterioration of oil packaging which resulted in product spillage. To minimize losses due to pest infestation at beneficiary storage in households, WFP, together with the distribution of food, issued written instructions on the proper storage of fortified wheat flour in the Kyrgyz and Uzbek languages. In addition, safe food storage and food monitoring activities contributed to reducing the losses related to warehouse mismanagement.

Management

Partnerships

WFP continued effective partnerships with the government, United Nations agencies, donor agencies, local and international NGOs. Partners collaborated with WFP to provide complementary support to the implementation of activities, and directly implemented schemes with WFP inputs. A main focus of attention has been the development of complementary partnerships to help provide a more holistic response to community needs at project field sites and to provide expertise at the national level.

At the national level, WFP's main partner was the Ministry of Social Development and Labour, which oversaw implementation of project activities. Other major government partners included the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Emergency Situations, the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Health and the State Agency for Environmental Protection and Forestry.

Partnerships with the government included support to the national SUN movement, where WFP together with UNICEF played a co-lead role at the national level. A further example of WFP's national level partnership was the work undertaken with the the National Institute for Strategic Studies (NISS), which led to the development of a country-specific methodology to assess institutional food security governance capacities through a NCI-Resilience. In partnership with NISS, WFP conducted a series of stakeholder consultations and undertook a comprehensive gap review exercise in line with priorities outlined in the National Food Security and Nutrition Programme. Eleven national and six international partners and stakeholders, including FAO, were involved in the process.

WFP continued to strengthen ties with donors and development partners in 2015. As an active member of the donor-led Development Partners Coordination Council (DPCC), which met monthly, WFP continued to co-chair the DPCC Agriculture, Food Security and Rural Development Working Group with FAO. This platform sought to enhance coordination between stakeholders to provide opportunities for synergies and complementarities. Additionally, alongside UNICEF, WFP began to jointly co-chair the DPCC Social Protection Working Group to support coordination and development of activities in the sector, in line with policy frameworks such as the Social Protection Programme 2015-2017.

WFP, FAO, IFAD, ILO and UN Women continued to work together to promote the economic empowerment of rural women. WFP collaborated with UNDP and GIZ to implement asset rehabilitation and creation activities, mainly in the south of the country. WFP worked collaboratively with UNDP and other United Nations counterparts in the implementation of a new cross border peace building project that covered the Kyrgyz Republic and Tajikistan, where WFP sought to build on previous peace building experience to provide a FFA component and complementary inputs, to support cross border communities affected by conflict.

WFP and FAO initiated positive developments such as the signing of a local level agreement defining potential areas of collaboration, the formulation of a joint concept note on social protection and collaboration in food security monitoring. Further collaboration with FAO is a priority area that needs to be further developed in 2016. In this regard, existing collaboration between FAO and WFP through the FAO Global Environment Project on climate adaptation would be a good starting point, but further efforts are required to share and disseminate FAO technologies in areas such as crop production, forestry and fisheries through WFP field level interventions for the benefit of the rural poor and vulnerable.

At a local project implementation level, local authorities continued to play a central role in community mobilization, project design and planning to increase local ownership and build government capacity. WFP coordinated plans to extend linkages with local associations, such as Water User Associations, which could play a key role to ensure the sustainability of activities. Local NGOs also supported the design and implementation of projects and assisted with food distributions and monitoring activities. The Kyrgyz Association of Forestry and Land Users was involved in the planning and monitoring of forestry project. WFP further worked with NGOs, Agency for Development Initiatives and Community Development Alliance to help women improve agricultural production through vegetable growing and training. In asset rehabilitation and creation activities WFP partnered with local NGOs such as Bilek, Ak-Niet, Centre for Activation and Development of Rural Initiatives. All CPs had solid experience in fostering community participation, mobilizing local resources and project implementation. They had a strong presence in the geographical area of operation, which facilitated access to communities and helped reach the most vulnerable people. These partnerships enabled WFP and other development actors to extend outreach, coordinate and complement each other's efforts, maximize project impact and build the capacity of vulnerable households in the Kyrgyz Republic.

Partnership	NGO		Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement	UN/IO
	National	International		
Total	6			2

Cross-cutting Indicators	Project End Target	Latest Follow-up
Amount of complementary funds provided to the project by partners (including NGOs, civil society, private sector organizations, international financial institutions and regional development banks)		
<i>KYRGYZSTAN, Food-Assistance-for-Assets , Project End Target: 2016.12 , Latest Follow-up: 2015.12</i>	=3,223,438.00	268,576.00
Number of partner organizations that provide complementary inputs and services		
<i>KYRGYZSTAN, Food-Assistance-for-Assets , Project End Target: 2016.12 , Latest Follow-up: 2015.12</i>	=30.00	14.00
Proportion of project activities implemented with the engagement of complementary partners		
<i>KYRGYZSTAN, Food-Assistance-for-Assets , Project End Target: 2016.12 , Latest Follow-up: 2015.12</i>	=80.00	35.00

Lessons Learned

This project has been preceded by other asset-creation and income-generating projects implemented by WFP in the Kyrgyz Republic, and therefore lessons learned over the past few years have been incorporated into the planning, implementation and monitoring of project activities.

Lessons learned included the choice of implementing partners and approaches to working with the government. In particular, WFP has concluded from recent experience and consultations that close integration with government programmes and support at policy and systems levels plays a critical role in improving the overall sustainability and impact of project activities. A key lesson from previous projects has been to ensure close integration with government priorities and approaches, and ensure detailed and substantive engagement with the government at multiple levels. Therefore, whilst WFP continues to work with CPs engaged in oversight, capacity development and technical assistance, WFP also works directly with local government at implementation level and with national government counterparts in policy and coordination. WFP emphasized local authority capacity building through ToT, secondments and workshops to enable local authorities and communities to take a more systematic and holistic approach to food security and nutrition and resilience building and ensure that activities are effectively integrated in annual local level plans and budgets. This approach helped to facilitate government efforts to replicate these modalities in other areas and has enabled WFP to access complementary government funds.

WFP recognized that in past projects not all activities had strong income-generating elements. Training components had revolved around technical skills and only marginally touched on income-generation, or failed to take into account the full range of skills required by beneficiaries to sustainably increase their earnings. However, the availability of opportunities to raise and diversify incomes was increasingly seen as a key determinant of improving the food security status of households, and for this reason new schemes have been designed with a strong emphasis on income-generation and the development of marketable skills. This is being complemented by an increased range of training on business development skills and support for marketing, together with other partners, and sustainable approaches to providing on-going capacity development support.

A further key lesson for the impact and sustainability of activities was to promote more holistic approaches to the creation and development of livelihoods together with CPs. This requires a broader approach towards addressing food security and nutrition, and resilience. Field level schemes, in particular agricultural activities, have been designed, to the extent possible, alongside local authorities and CPs to cover the entire value chain from land preparation to marketing, involving a larger number of stakeholders. Such approaches ensured that targeted households not only improved their food consumption and dietary diversification, but also improved and expanded their income base. This is being complemented by the use of a landscape approach, which focused on more restricted numbers of communities for multiple interventions, which enabled WFP to track successes, make required adjustments and take a long-term approach to building resilience.

Fundraising to ensure the provision of project inputs at field level by local authorities and CPs was a challenge, in particular during local level planning and prioritization of field level interventions. Local authorities and CPs have

faced difficulties in identifying complementary funding to support some WFP interventions, especially interventions related to income generation, including provision of expert training, supporting the establishment of processing facilities and the provision of agricultural inputs. WFP, jointly with national counterparts and the inter-ministerial working group sought to assess additional complementary options, including the use of existing resources through a single mechanism, such a unified system of Productive Measures of Social Development.

Whilst central level partnerships were further established, complementary field level partnerships require further development to achieve optimal results. To ensure this challenge, WFP is continuing to develop its partnerships with FAO, UNICEF, national counterparts and other development partners, through regular stakeholder meetings and efforts to ensure closer complementary programming in common geographical areas of intervention and through the promotion of coordination, and synergies in project implementation.

Operational Statistics

Annex: Participants by Activity and Modality

Activity	Planned			Actual			% Actual v. Planned		
	Food	CBT	Total	Food	CBT	Total	Food	CBT	Total
Food-Assistance-for-Assets	15,400	2,400	17,800	17,119	-	17,119	111.2%	-	96.2%

Annex: Resource Inputs from Donors

Donor	Cont. Ref. No.	Commodity	Resourced in 2015 (mt)		Shipped/Purchased in 2015 (mt)
			In-Kind	Cash	
Japan	JPN-C-00399-01	Vegetable Oil	0	187	0
Russian Federation	RUS-C-00037-02	Wheat Flour	0	3,013	0
Russian Federation	RUS-C-00042-01	Wheat Flour	0	1,553	0
UN CERF Common Funds and Agencies	001-C-01134-01	Vegetable Oil	0	28	0
UN CERF Common Funds and Agencies	001-C-01271-01	Vegetable Oil	0	121	0
Total			0	4,901	0