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Draft Tajikistan country strategic plan (2019–2024)

Duration	1 July 2019–30 June 2024
Total cost to WFP	USD 82,036,882
Gender and age marker*	3

* <http://gender.manuals.wfp.org/en/gender-toolkit/gender-in-programming/gender-and-age-marker/>.

Executive summary

Despite positive economic growth and progress in poverty reduction, Tajikistan still faces a challenging food security and nutrition situation. A recent economic downturn compounded by population growth has increased household vulnerability and led to its reclassification as a low-income country in 2018. Malnutrition rates are the highest in Central Asia, and the number of undernourished people has remained unchanged over the last decade. Tajikistan faces environmental challenges including soil degradation and poor natural resource management. The country is also vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, which has exacerbated food security and undermined the livelihoods of vulnerable communities.

The Government has identified food security and access to good quality nutrition as one of its development priorities. The country strategic plan is aligned with government strategy, addressing gaps and promoting capacity strengthening to support the country's efforts to achieve Sustainable Development Goal 2, on zero hunger, through four strategic outcomes:

- Strategic outcome 1: Food-insecure vulnerable people, including primary schoolchildren, in targeted districts meet their basic food requirements by 2024.
- Strategic outcome 2: Vulnerable groups, especially children aged 6–59 months and pregnant and lactating women and girls, in districts where the national integrated management of acute malnutrition protocol is being rolled out have reduced levels of malnutrition by 2024.

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- Strategic outcome 3: Targeted food-insecure communities in areas vulnerable to climate change have increased their resilience to shocks by 2024.
- Strategic outcome 4: Government institutions at the central and decentralized levels have strengthened capacities to target, design and implement effective food security and nutrition strategies by 2024.

The plan contributes to the national development strategy for the period up to 2030 and the United Nations development assistance framework for 2016–2020. Activities will support the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals 2 and 17 through WFP's Strategic Results 1 (access to food), 2 (end malnutrition), 4 (sustainable food systems) and 5 (capacity strengthening) and will contribute to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 4, on quality education.

WFP will implement activities in partnership with the Government, United Nations agencies and other development partners through the Development Coordination Council and the Scaling Up Nutrition initiative.

Draft decision*

The Board approves the Tajikistan country strategic plan (2019–2024) (WFP/EB.A/2019/8-A/10) at a total cost to WFP of USD 82,036,882.

* This is a draft decision. For the final decision adopted by the Board, please refer to the decisions and recommendations document issued at the end of the session.

1. Country analysis

1.1 Country context

1. Tajikistan is a low-income, landlocked country with 93 percent of its territory covered by mountains. The population is estimated at 9 million people, 74 percent of whom live in rural areas. Nationally, half the population is under the age of 25; this proportion is even higher in rural areas.
2. After the civil war (1992–1997) Tajikistan experienced economic growth leading to its classification as a lower-middle-income country in 2015. In 2018, however, it was reclassified as low-income, following a decline in economic progress relative to population growth. The country's poverty rate has fallen rapidly over the past two decades, from over 80 percent in the early 2000s (according to the World Bank) to 29 percent in 2018.¹ The primary causes of this success are the favourable economic environment outside the country, remittances from emigrants and increases in domestic employment and incomes. The pace of poverty reduction has slowed recently, however, with only moderate declines in the last five years. National surveys indicate that households headed by women are more at risk of poverty and extreme poverty than those headed by men.² Rural areas remain significantly poorer than urban zones, and poverty is influenced by the seasons, increasing in the winter, when there is little agricultural activity.
3. Tajikistan is ranked 127th of 189 countries in the Human Development Index, which corresponds to “medium human development”, and is 69th of 160 countries in the 2017 Gender Inequality Index. According to the Gender Development Index – which reflects gender inequalities in health, education and economic resources – Tajikistan achieved “medium equality” between women and men in 2017.
4. The national development strategy for the period up to 2030 (NDS–2030)³ sets out the country's commitments with regard to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). NDS–2030 identifies four strategic goals, one of which is “ensuring food security and people's access to good-quality nutrition”.

1.2 Progress towards SDG 2

Targets

5. *Access to food.* Tajikistan's food and nutrition situation was classified as “serious” in the 2017 Global Hunger Index,⁴ the worst rating of all Central Asian countries. Although the proportion of undernourished people declined from 39 percent in 2000 to 30 percent in 2016, the number of undernourished people remains stagnant at 2.6 million due to population growth.⁵

¹ Calculated by the Government using a national threshold for defining poverty based on country norms. Sex and age-disaggregated poverty data are not available.

² Asian Development Bank. 2016. *Tajikistan Country Gender Assessment*. Available at <https://www.adb.org/sites/default/files/institutional-document/185615/tajikistan-cga.pdf>.

³ Government of Tajikistan. 2016. *National development strategy of the Republic of Tajikistan for the period up to 2030*. Available at http://nafaka.tj/images/zakoni/new/strategiya_2030_en.pdf.

⁴ International Food Policy Research Institute, Concern Worldwide and Welthungerhilfe. 2017. *2017 Global Hunger Index: The inequalities of hunger*. Available at <https://www.globalhungerindex.org/pdf/en/2017.pdf>. The 2018 Global Hunger Index report does not contain data on Tajikistan.

⁵ The prevalence of undernourishment is the indicator developed by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations that is traditionally used to monitor hunger at the global and regional levels. The method relies on aggregated country-level data, so sex- and age-disaggregated data are not available.

6. Poverty is highest among households headed by women, households headed by men or women with no formal education, and households with many children. With 1.5 million Tajik citizens (71 percent of whom are men) emigrating to neighbouring countries, women are left behind as de-facto heads of households, responsible for generating income to cover living expenses despite their limited access to resources.⁶ Recent data reveal that households spend an average of 50 to 60 percent of their total expenditure on food.⁷ Tajikistan is highly dependent on food imports; half of all wheat is imported, and the share of foreign food products in the retail food trade is estimated to be at least 60 percent.⁸ Between 2015 and 2017, consumer food prices rose more than the prices of non-food items, which increased the share of food expenses, as detected by WFP's food security monitoring system. According to a Fill the Nutrient Gap analysis conducted in 2018, an estimated 30–56 percent of households, depending on the region, cannot afford a nutritious diet. These figures are expected to rise unless there is a change in the current trend of decreasing economic access caused by prices increasing more than incomes. The seasonality of agricultural production, dependence on remittances and the high price of imported food also affect the food security of vulnerable households throughout the year.
7. *End malnutrition.* The nutritional status of the population remains poor: the country has the worst nutritional status statistics in Central Asia. Nationally, stunting among children under 5 has fallen two percentage points per year over the last five years, from 26 percent (27 percent of girls and 26 percent boys) in 2012 to 17 percent (17 percent girls and 18 percent boys) in 2017.⁹ With an annual population growth rate of 2.5 percent, however, the current rate of decline is insufficient to meet the global World Health Assembly 2025 target of a 40 percent reduction in the number of children under 5 who are stunted. Wasting prevalence was 6 percent in 2017 (5 percent of girls and 6 percent of boys), down from 10 percent in 2012 (same percentage for girls and boys). Similar to stunting rates, wasting rates also vary greatly from region to region, reaching 17 percent in the capital Dushanbe and 10 percent in the remote area of Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Oblast.
8. Many people suffer from micronutrient deficiencies. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), vitamin A deficiency is a severe public health problem, while anaemia is a moderate to severe problem for women and children. Despite salt iodization regulations that were put in place in 2002, iodine deficiency affects more than 50 percent of women and children. The situation has deteriorated nationally among women and in some regions among children, coinciding with a drop in the use of iodized salt from 82 percent of households in 2009 to 74 percent in 2016. The prevalence of overweight, obesity and non-communicable diseases is also increasing, primarily due to inadequate diets. The proportion of overweight children decreased from 6 percent in 2012 to 3 percent in 2017 (3.5 percent of boys and 3.2 percent of girls under 5) while the percentage of women who are overweight or obese increased from 30 percent in 2012 to 37 percent in 2017.¹⁰ The proportion of women who are overweight was found to increase with age, with urban

⁶ United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women. Tajikistan country webpage (<http://eca.unwomen.org/en/where-we-are/tajikistan>). See also *Tajikistan Country Gender Assessment*.

⁷ Trend analysis using WFP Food Security Monitoring System data shows a seasonal fluctuation, with a growing trend since 2014 (see http://vam.wfp.org/CountryPage_overview.aspx?iso3=TJK). In the last round of data collection (December 2017), no statistically significant difference was observed in food expenditure rates between the surveyed households led by men (57 percent) and those led by women (59 percent).

⁸ Zero hunger strategic review, 2018. Not yet available online.

⁹ Statistical Agency under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan, the Ministry of Health and MEASURE DHS. 2012 and 2017. *Tajikistan Demographic Health Survey 2012* and *Tajikistan Demographic Health Survey 2017*. Available at <https://dhsprogram.com/pubs/pdf/fr279/fr279.pdf> and <https://dhsprogram.com/pubs/pdf/FR341/FR341.pdf>. **Error! Hyperlink reference not valid.**

¹⁰ *Ibid.*

women more likely to be overweight or obese than rural women (41 percent compared with 36 percent).

9. *Smallholder productivity and incomes.* According to 2016 estimates from Tajikistan's statistics agency, agriculture accounts for 20 percent of the country's economy, the highest share in any Eastern European or Central Asian country.¹¹ Agriculture employs almost 70 percent of the labour force, with most agricultural output produced on small household plots. According to official statistics, 75 percent of Tajik women are registered as employed in the agriculture sector, compared with 42 percent of men. Small average plot size limits household production and income, while climate change, manifested in rainfall variability and increasing temperatures, compounded by limited livelihood diversification, hampers smallholder productivity and incomes.¹²
10. Only 10 percent of land is registered to women farmers, even though in rural areas more than four out of five women work in farming, primarily as farmers or unpaid workers on small household farms or in kitchen gardens. Women employed in the formal agriculture sector are paid substantially less than men: in 2013, the average monthly nominal wage of women was only 58 percent that of men. According to analysis by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), agriculture is one of the sectors with the highest levels of exploitation of women and the greatest gender inequalities, and women farmers have limited access to productive resources and agricultural inputs.
11. *Sustainable food systems.* Tajikistan's agriculture reform programme for 2012–2020 aims to develop a sustainable and profitable agriculture sector. The ambition of the Government is to ensure that farmers have access to credit so that they can make use of inputs and practices that increase in yields and the proportion of output sold on the market. Achievement of that ambition would in turn improve national food availability and increase household incomes in farming communities.
12. Food production, however, is restricted by a shortage of arable land, 97 percent of which is subject to soil degradation. Productivity is also constrained by recurrent natural disasters, dependence on dilapidated agricultural infrastructure and poor technology, high taxation and inadequate land tenure structures. Extreme weather, exacerbated by a changing climate and limited adaptation capacities, poses a further threat. Women are more vulnerable to the impacts of natural disasters than men due to their limited access to resources, including productive inputs and land. Women's labour, including unpaid agricultural, domestic and care work, is a significant underpinning of Tajikistan's food systems.

Macroeconomic environment

13. Tajikistan is still recovering from the economic shock that began in late 2014 due to a dramatic fall in the prices of cotton and aluminium, the country's main exports, and a sharp decline in remittances due to the recession in Russia. The economic outlook for the short- to medium-term is positive, however, aided by an improved external environment, including projected export commodity prices and improved relationships with neighbouring countries, particularly Uzbekistan.
14. The construction of the 3,600-megawatt Rogun hydropower plant is a major step towards ensuring energy security, first among the NDS–2030 priorities. The plant began energy production in November 2018 and will be fully operational in 2032. The Government plans

¹¹ FAO and others. 2017. *The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2017: Building resilience for peace and food security*. Available at <http://www.fao.org/3/a-i7695e.pdf>.

¹² World Bank Group. 2009. Available at <http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/COUNTRIES/ECAEXT/0,,contentMDK:22196205~pagePK:146736~piPK:226340~theSitePK:258599,00.html>.

to boost hydropower exports through agreements with Uzbekistan and Afghanistan, while eliminating internal energy shortages and contributing to growth, revenue and poverty reduction.¹³ Some analysis has highlighted, however, that Tajikistan's real challenge lies not in sustaining economic growth but in developing redistributive policies and creating a private sector business-friendly environment that promotes inclusiveness and ensures that the benefits of growth are shared across the population.¹⁴

Key cross-sector linkages

15. Analysis conducted by the Government for a voluntary national review¹⁵ presented at the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development in 2017 and a subsequent national SDG report prepared in 2018¹⁶ highlight the close relationship between SDG 2 and poverty, health, water, biodiversity, sustainable cities, sustainable energy and climate change. Despite the fast pace of poverty reduction over the past 15 years, Tajikistan has made little progress in reducing non-monetary poverty, which is driven by limited access to education, heating and sanitation.
16. Rural populations suffer from poor health care and education. School attendance is irregular in the winter owing to problems with school transport, electricity and heating. Many rural schools and health facilities lack access to adequate sanitation and clean water.
17. Gender inequalities in employment and education, including vocational training, undermine the achievement of food and nutrition security and other sustainable development ambitions. The gap between male and female employment rates grew from 21 percent in 2003 to 35 percent in 2013,¹⁷ while the most visible gender inequality in education is the decline in the number of girls attending school, a trend that begins around grade 6, the last year of primary education, and accelerates in grade 9, the last year of compulsory education.¹⁸ Enrolment in primary schools is very high for boys and girls (93.7 percent of girls and 95 percent of boys), and girls constitute 48 percent of all students. However, women make up just 29 percent of tertiary students. Because of these and similar challenges, addressing gender inequalities is a priority of the NDS–2030.

1.3 Hunger gaps and challenges

18. A zero hunger strategic review conducted in 2018 revealed that improvements in the nutrition of the population have been limited in comparison with the economic growth of the previous two decades. The review shows that food security and nutrition in Tajikistan are threatened by:
 - households' heavy dependence on remittances for income;
 - high and rising food prices;
 - heavy dependence on food imports;

¹³ World Bank Group. *Tajikistan systematic country diagnostic: Making the National Development Strategy a Success: Building the Foundation for Shared Prosperity*. Available from <https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/tajikistan/publication/scd>.

¹⁴ World Bank Group. 2018. *Tajikistan Country Economic Update: Spring 2018: Changing Regional Environment: Critical to Capitalize*. Available at <http://pubdocs.worldbank.org/en/366221532077364053/TJ-economic-update-1807-en.pdf>.

¹⁵ United Nations. Sustainable Development Goals Knowledge Platform – Tajikistan country page (<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/memberstates/tajikistan>).

¹⁶ Ministry of Economic Development and Trade of the Republic of Tajikistan. 2018. National Report on Implementation of Strategic Documents of the Country in the Context of the Sustainable Development Goals. Available at http://medt.tj/documents/main/strategic_national_programm/ReportV4%5bENG%5d.pdf.

¹⁷ World Bank Group. 2017. *Tajikistan Job Diagnostics; The Strategic Framework for Jobs* (<http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/infographic/2017/02/14/tajikistan-jobs-diagnostic-strategic-framework-for-jobs>).

¹⁸ Asian Development Bank. 2016. *Tajikistan Country Gender Assessment* (available at <https://www.adb.org/sites/default/files/institutional-document/185615/tajikistan-cga.pdf>).

- difficult weather conditions and climate change; and
 - gender inequalities.
19. The review suggests that agricultural reform could provide a solid base for the improvement of food security, but it also highlights several challenges. One difficulty is that the availability of locally produced foods is lower than the level assumed in the Government's sector and strategic programmes, resulting in an inadequate consumption of fruit, dairy and meat products and vegetable oil. Only 20 percent of locally produced foods are processed, and businesses that process agricultural produce are mostly small and informal and face financing, management, marketing and logistics problems. Dependence on imports is another major challenge, exposing the country to price fluctuations on international markets that disproportionately affect the poor and limit their food options.
 20. Local production is hampered by limited land availability and investment in agriculture, which result in low agricultural productivity and growth. Smallholder farmers, especially women, have limited access to resources such as credit for investments in modernization and innovations. This, coupled with inadequate storage, high post-harvest losses and limited opportunities for the profitable processing of produce, slows the pace of poverty reduction, especially in rural areas. Soil degradation, outdated and poorly maintained irrigation canals and drainage systems and the overexploitation of natural resources pose further challenges to national food production capacity.
 21. Tajikistan has been classified as the country in Eastern Europe and Central Asia most vulnerable to climate change, which poses a further threat to its food security. The increased recurrence of droughts, floods and landslides has reduced agricultural productivity, increased losses and damaged farming livelihoods. Meanwhile, there are insufficient resources for climate change adaptation and emergency response.
 22. Although national law upholds the principle of equality between men and women, gender stereotypes and discriminatory social norms are deeply embedded in Tajik society and institutions. These manifest as discrimination in the labour market, wage disparities between women and men and reduced social protection for low-income households headed by women, all of which disadvantage women and girls in access to economic resources and exposure to poverty and food insecurity.
 23. Economic inequality¹⁹ has been growing and is more pronounced in rural areas. Reduced inflows of remittances between 2014 and 2017 affected access to food by shrinking the purchasing power of poor households. The zero hunger strategic review found that current targeted social assistance programmes had limited geographical coverage and benefits and were neither gender-responsive nor designed to address nutrition gaps. In addition, the Government's capacity to provide public goods and services through sustainable financing of national policies and programmes had not yet fully developed.
 24. Together with poor food availability and access, Tajikistan suffers from a triple burden of malnutrition: undernutrition, micronutrient deficiencies and overweight and obesity. While the prevalence of overweight and obesity correlates positively with increases in income, undernutrition and micronutrient deficiencies are equally prevalent in all wealth quintiles. This highlights a lack of awareness of optimal nutrition, which is also demonstrated by low dietary diversity, unbalanced diets and suboptimal childcare and feeding practices, which may be driven by culture and tradition. Efforts are being made to boost the nutrient content of staple foods through food fortification, with parliament reviewing a draft fortification law, but shortcomings have been observed in the implementation of mandatory

¹⁹ The Gini coefficient for Tajikistan rose from 0.31 in 2009 to 0.34 in 2015. World Bank Group. 2018. *Tajikistan Systematic country diagnostic: making the national development strategy 2030 a success – building the foundation for shared prosperity*. Available at <https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/tajikistan/publication/scd>.

salt iodization, suggesting that stricter monitoring is required. Direct and concerted efforts are needed to tackle the root causes of malnutrition and ensure that nutrition-sensitive and nutrition-specific approaches are integrated into national programmes.

1.4 Key country priorities

Government

25. The strategic review identified several priority areas for improving food security and nutrition, all broadly included in the NDS-2030. These are as follows:
 - increasing labour productivity and investment in food production;
 - promoting local food production;
 - ensuring sufficient access to food;
 - strengthening and coordinating activities for fostering food security; and
 - improving data collection and monitoring systems for food security and nutrition.
26. Increasing crop yields by introducing intensive methods of agricultural production and expanding cultivated areas is presented as one of the main ways to address food insecurity. In addition to interventions in the agriculture sector, the review concludes that an integrated and gender-equitable approach is critical to the improvement of food security and nutrition, increasing the overall availability of nutritious foods and food access for all segments of the population while improving people's awareness of good-quality nutrition.
27. Priority actions for strengthening food security in the medium term include:
 - preventing and treating malnutrition by supporting appropriate feeding practices for infants and young children with actions targeting women and men caregivers, establishing a system for the regular monitoring and treatment of acute malnutrition, supplying food products fortified with micronutrients to the most vulnerable people in order to reduce major deficiencies and improving the nutrition of pregnant and lactating women and girls;
 - improving households' awareness of proper nutrition and hygiene by training men and women about good nutrition and by raising schoolchildren's awareness of healthy nutrition and dietary diversity, including through classes in cooking and food preservation;
 - improving access to safe drinking water in communities and improving sanitation infrastructure;
 - supporting access to good-quality nutrition through gender-responsive national social protection programmes, including a national programme for providing nutrition in schools; and
 - developing emergency response capacity for protecting food security and ensuring good-quality nutrition in the event of crises caused by economic shocks, agricultural failures or natural disasters, including through climate services and early warning. In parallel to emergency response plans, it is necessary to set up state social protection schemes that provide access to food and create productive assets for strengthening capacities to respond to shocks.

28. Recommended actions for the long term include:

- strengthening the role of the national food security council, granting it the authority to manage a multisectoral approach to strengthening food security in collaboration with the national Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) movement;²⁰
- ensuring national budget allocations sufficient for effective health services and social protection systems and for developing an agriculture sector that can compete with imports and on international markets;
- implementing agricultural reform;
- expanding the coverage and improving the quality of health services and developing an effective health and nutrition monitoring system for tracking indicators, including gender-specific indicators, that can inform the development of policies and programmes;
- supporting the development and management of water and sanitation infrastructure and services;
- expanding the coverage of the social protection system and ensuring that it is gender-responsive and assists those most vulnerable to food insecurity, increasing their access to food; and
- strengthening information systems so that they can be used to support integrated policy development in all relevant sectors, to facilitate the monitoring of key indicators, to produce information on social protection and state insurance and to guide actions through cross-sector analysis and early warning.

29. With regard to the development of human capital, the strategic review underlines the importance of reducing social disparities and gender inequalities,²¹ a cross-cutting priority that is explicitly identified in the national mid-term development plan for 2016–2020.

United Nations and other partners

30. The United Nations development assistance framework (UNDAF) for 2016–2020 guides the support of United Nations agencies to Tajikistan in four strategic areas: democratic governance, rule of law and human rights; sustainable and equitable economic development; social development, inclusion and empowerment; and resilience and environmental sustainability. WFP is coordinating United Nations' efforts to achieve outcome 4 of the current UNDAF, on food security and nutrition, and is engaged in the development of the next UNDAF cycle in order to ensure that WFP activities are aligned with those of its partners.

31. The Development Coordination Council functions as a coordination mechanism for development partners working in support of the NDS–2030. Development Coordination Council focus areas include infrastructure, the economy and human development. The council hosts a working group on food security and nutrition chaired by WFP with support from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The working group includes representatives from the Aga Khan Development Network, the United Kingdom Department for International Development, the European Union, the Embassy of the Russian Federation, FAO, Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (German Agency for International Cooperation, or GIZ), the Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and WHO.

²⁰ In 2013, Tajikistan joined the SUN movement, which promotes a multisectoral approach to improving nutrition.

²¹ The Committee on Women and the Family under the Government of Tajikistan was established in June 1991. Tajikistan ratified the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) in 1993 and its Optional protocol in 2014.

2. Strategic implications for WFP

2.1 WFP's experience and lessons learned

32. WFP has worked in Tajikistan since 1993, progressively shifting from the emergency response initiated during the civil war to development activities that support national social protection and safety nets, nutrition, resilience building and disaster risk reduction through capacity strengthening for national and local institutions.
33. The current portfolio of activities builds on extensive consultations with beneficiaries – diverse women, men, girls and boys – through focus group discussions. On school feeding, WFP has continued to advocate the allocation of government funds to a sustainable school feeding programme, which has been reflected in the national school feeding strategy for 2017–2021. This advocacy has included proposing the establishment of more permanent positions for school cooks, a function usually performed by school cleaners or other staff, almost all of whom are women. Formalizing cooks' positions through proper contracts is an important opportunity from an equity and empowerment perspective, improving their food security and livelihoods. A gender analysis was conducted by WFP in 2016 and updated in 2018 in order to inform the design of relevant, effective, equitable and empowering interventions.
34. A 2014 evaluation of protracted relief and recovery operation 200122²² recommended that WFP continue to implement activities for reducing acute malnutrition, responding to emergencies and rebuilding livelihoods while developing a more comprehensive capacity-building plan for strengthening the Government's social protection system, ensuring that it is gender-responsive and reinforcing the Government's management and coordination of emergency preparedness and response. Recommendations derived from operational evaluations conducted in 2016 in neighbouring Kyrgyz Republic,²³ as well as findings and recommendations from a 2012 evaluation of WFP's school feeding policy,²⁴ have also contributed to the development and planning of WFP's portfolio in Tajikistan.
35. In November 2018, WFP began piloting the SCOPE Conditional on Demand Assistance (CODA) application²⁵ to register the admission of malnourished children aged 6–59 months, monitor their programme adherence and record treatment outcomes, thus creating an initial platform for the establishment of an electronic nutrition surveillance system containing digital data on individuals. WFP will review the pilot with the Ministry of Health in the second half of 2019, with the goal of informing the roll-out of SCOPE CODA to all moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) treatment centres.

2.2 Opportunities for WFP

36. Through the NDS–2030, the UNDAF for 2016–2020 and the strategic review WFP, in consultation with government counterparts, United Nations and other development partners, donors and private sector actors, identified areas in which it could support

²² WFP Office of Evaluation. 2014. *Operation evaluation: Tajikistan Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation PRRO 200122: Restoring sustainable livelihoods for food insecure people*. Available at <https://docs.wfp.org/api/documents/b9f9433602d64e8f8d951403c7953e64/download/>.

²³ WFP Office of Evaluation. 2016. *Operation evaluation: Kyrgyz Republic DEV 200662: Support for the National Productive Safety Nets and Long-Term Community Resilience*. Available at <https://docs.wfp.org/api/documents/6b905962eb5843a2910d2345a1e444f0/download/>; WFP Office of Evaluation. 2016. *Operation evaluation: Kyrgyz Republic DEV 200176: Optimising the Primary School Meals Programme*. Available at <https://docs.wfp.org/api/documents/1d0447c552ed4471b6cc9ca22e78c27a/download/>.

²⁴ WFP Office of Evaluation. 2011. *WFP's School Feeding Policy: a Policy Evaluation: Vol.I: Full Report*. Available at <https://docs.wfp.org/api/documents/ac23366aa3144b1b85e0d7bc40b35b8c/download/>.

²⁵ SCOPE CODA is WFP's beneficiary and transfer management platform for tracking, monitoring and reporting on the MAM treatment process. Other health services such as the management of severe acute malnutrition or vaccinations can be integrated into the system.

Tajikistan at the national and community level in achieving the SDGs, particularly SDG 2. In 2018 a research team from Columbia University helped WFP to consolidate findings and analyse the results of further consultations on the design of the country strategic plan (CSP).

37. The opportunities identified include the following:

- Advocacy for healthy, sustainable and resilient food systems, including through the design of and assistance for multi-level campaigns on nutrition, and the provision of support for the development of national food-based dietary guidelines and the introduction of nutrition education into school curricula.
- Support for high-impact national intervention programmes, including advocacy and assistance for the fortification of staple foods, the scale-up of a government-led and -owned school feeding programme, the prevention and treatment of MAM, the development of a nutrition-sensitive and gender-transformative agriculture sector and programmes for addressing overweight and obesity.
- Support for national food security initiatives, including the development and operation of a data system platform and the strengthening of emergency preparedness and response.
- Innovative pilot and demonstration programmes, which will require WFP to retain the flexibility and resources needed for the design and piloting of gender-equitable and innovative approaches, including for climate change adaptation.

2.3 Strategic changes

38. The inclusion in this CSP of an outcome dedicated to capacity strengthening reflects WFP's strategic shift from implementing operations to enabling them, focusing on national and subnational institutions and their priorities in order to address the challenges they face in achieving food security and nutrition. WFP will enhance its engagement in strategic and operational partnerships at all levels.

39. In line with the mid-term recommendations of the UNDAF for 2016–2020, WFP will strengthen targeting and implementation to ensure that programmes take a transformational approach in order to achieve sustainable development, paying special attention to reducing gender inequalities and taking into consideration the specific needs of persons with disabilities.²⁶

40. Compared with previous livelihood support interventions, WFP will increase its focus on climate change adaptation in order to build the resilience of vulnerable communities to climate shocks and stressors, as recommended in the strategic review and in alignment with Tajikistan's intended nationally determined contribution to combatting climate change under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.²⁷ In compliance with WFP's 2017 environmental policy, all activities will integrate environmental and social considerations and will meet WFP environmental and social standards.

3. WFP strategic orientation

3.1 Direction, focus and intended impacts

41. This CSP addresses the gaps identified in the zero hunger strategic review and enables WFP to maximize its added value through an increased focus on strengthening the capacities of the Government and other national stakeholders to develop a comprehensive approach to

²⁶ Tajikistan signed the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities on 22 March 2018.

²⁷ See <https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/submissions/INDC/Published%20Documents/Tajikistan/1/INDC-TJK%20final%20ENG.pdf>.

food security and nutrition and to implement effective and equitable evidence-based programmes, including on climate change adaptation and emergency preparedness.

42. WFP activities reflect the needs of beneficiaries identified through consultations as well as the national priorities set out in the NDS–2030. This CSP will contribute to priorities on health, education, social protection, food security and nutrition, resilience and environmental sustainability of the UNDAF for 2016–2020. It will contribute to progress towards achieving SDGs 2 and 17 through WFP Strategic Results 1 (access to food), 2 (malnutrition), 4 (sustainable food systems) and 5 (capacity strengthening) while also linking to SDG 4, on ensuring quality education. Given that gender inequalities hinder the achievement of food security, WFP activities will contribute to gender equality, and gender considerations will be integrated into all activities.

3.2 Strategic outcomes, focus areas, expected outputs and key activities

Strategic outcome 1: Food-insecure vulnerable people, including primary schoolchildren, in targeted districts meet their basic food requirements by 2024

43. WFP will support access to food, focusing on primary schoolchildren²⁸ as a group with special nutrition needs. WFP's school feeding programme will ensure that children – equitably girls and boys – in targeted districts continue to receive daily nutritious meals to support their physical and cognitive development.

Focus area

44. This outcome addresses the root causes of widespread food insecurity in rural areas, facilitating access to food for the targeted population.

Expected outputs

45. This strategic outcome will be achieved through the following two outputs:
- Girls and boys of primary school age in targeted schools are provided with nutritionally balanced daily school meals that meet their basic food and nutrition needs.
 - Girls and boys of primary school age receive age-appropriate nutrition education that improves their nutrition awareness and behaviour.

Key activity

Activity 1: Provide nutritionally balanced school meals to targeted schoolchildren

46. WFP will continue to provide daily hot meals to children in primary grades in food-insecure rural areas of Khatlon, Sughd, Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Oblast and districts of republican subordination. The provision of hot and nutritious meals, in addition to helping to meet the food and nutritional needs of girls and boys attending primary school, offers an opportunity to school personnel to teach children about nutrition and hygiene, including the importance of diversifying macro and micronutrient intake.
47. School feeding will be implemented in partnership with the Ministry of Education and Science, the Ministry of Health and Social Protection, and regional and district authorities. WFP will also partner and coordinate actions with FAO, the International Fund for Agricultural Development and the Social and Industrial Foodservice Institute, which will support the gradual transition to a nationally owned, gender-responsive school feeding programme. Starting in the 2020/21 academic year, the management of school meals in a select number of schools will be handed over to the Government as part of the progressive development of a national school feeding programme.

²⁸ Although the outputs and activities of this strategic outcome are currently centred on schoolchildren, WFP will maintain the flexibility to adapt them for the next UNDAF cycle, which will commence in 2021 and may identify other vulnerable groups that need WFP support.

Strategic outcome 2: Vulnerable groups, especially children aged 6–59 months and pregnant and lactating women and girls, in districts where the national integrated management of acute malnutrition protocol is being rolled out have reduced levels of malnutrition by 2024

48. Through this outcome, WFP will support the treatment of children suffering from MAM. Nutritionally vulnerable children and their families, particularly pregnant and lactating women and girls, will also benefit from a range of malnutrition prevention activities that will help to improve their nutrition status and gender equality.

Focus area

49. This outcome focuses on addressing the root causes of malnutrition, including long-term undernutrition and limited capacity to manage acute malnutrition. While treating malnourished children, strategic outcome 2 aims to strengthen the capacity of the Government to treat and prevent acute malnutrition sustainably by managing appropriate interventions.

Expected outputs

50. This outcome will be achieved through the following three outputs:

- Targeted beneficiaries in selected districts are provided with specialized nutritious foods in order to address malnutrition.
- Community members in targeted districts learn appropriate nutrition-sensitive practices that prevent malnutrition.
- Vulnerable people benefit from the improved capacities of local health authorities to manage integrated management of acute malnutrition programmes, including through the digitalization of reporting and monitoring.

Key activity

Activity 2: Treat moderate acute malnutrition in children aged 6-59 months and implement malnutrition prevention activities using social and behaviour change communication with vulnerable groups while building the Government's capacity to manage nutrition programmes

51. WFP will provide specialized nutritious foods to treat children with MAM in districts where the Government has begun to roll out the national integrated management of acute malnutrition (IMAM) protocol. The current phase started in mid-2017 and is being implemented in four districts of the Khatlon region and one district in the Sughd region. From mid-2021, WFP support for national IMAM protocol implementation will be rolled out to additional districts, which may include urban and peri-urban areas; the new districts will be selected together with the Ministry of Health and Social Protection and potential donors.
52. WFP will implement activities jointly with the Ministry of Health and Social Protection and will coordinate with UNICEF and other partners such as USAID, GIZ, the World Bank and WHO in order to support local authorities and communities with malnutrition prevention. Research will be commissioned to help WFP and partners tailor social and behaviour change communication activities to women and men caregivers, as well as to identify and address suboptimal feeding and hygiene practices. Applying a gender-transformative approach, special attention will be given to eliminating discriminatory gender roles that undermine nutrition, promoting shared responsibility for the nutrition of household members. To strengthen this approach, WFP will collaborate with the national committee on women and family affairs, as well as with civil society organizations specialized in the promotion of gender equality.

Strategic outcome 3: Targeted food-insecure communities in areas vulnerable to climate change have increased their resilience to shocks by 2024

53. This outcome focuses on building the resilience of food-insecure communities, in gender-equitable and empowering ways, in order to increase their capacity to adapt to the impacts of climate change, in line with national priorities set out in the NDS–2030, the intended nationally determined contribution and outcome 6 of the current UNDAF. Through an integrated approach that includes the provision of climate information services, capacity strengthening, sustainable water management and resilient agriculture and forestry, participants – equitably women and men – in vulnerable communities will benefit from resource transfers that enable households to meet their food needs in the short term while resilience-enhancing assets are rehabilitated or created. The outcome will also be supported through the geographic convergence of other activities, such as school feeding, which will leverage additional food security support to boost the resilience of targeted communities.

Focus area

54. WFP will help to build the resilience of the communities most vulnerable to climate change, enabling them to manage sustainable, adaptable, equitable and shock-responsive food systems and cope with natural disasters and shocks. The combination of assets, skills and technology transfer will strengthen the food systems of targeted communities.

Expected outputs

55. This outcome will be achieved through the following three outputs:
- Targeted vulnerable households receive food assistance that meets their immediate food needs and enables them to improve their livelihoods.
 - Targeted communities benefit from new and rehabilitated productive assets that improve their resilience to climate shocks and other stressors and enable them to improve their food security.
 - Targeted vulnerable households benefit from climate services, technology transfer and improved capacities that enable them to diversify their livelihoods, build resilience and adapt to climate change.

Key activity

Activity 3: Carry out climate adaptation, asset creation and livelihood activities aimed at fostering resilience to shocks and stressors and conduct early response activities in the event of a small-scale disaster

56. WFP has identified resilience activities through a three-pronged approach comprising integrated context analysis, seasonal livelihood programming and community-based participatory planning that complements dedicated national and local consultations. Work will focus on rehabilitating and building climate change resilient productive assets while supporting livelihood diversification and adaptation, all in a gender-transformative manner. In order to align WFP support with government development priorities, activities will be identified in line with official district development plans, thus promoting ownership and sustainability. Interventions in communities will be implemented over several years in order to promote greater capacity to absorb or adapt to shocks. Guided by the gender analysis conducted in 2018, activities will engage and benefit men and women equitably.
57. To maintain WFP’s leading role in supporting the Government of Tajikistan in emergency response, activity 3 enables WFP to respond to government requests following small-scale natural disasters. Such events are recurrent in Tajikistan and their impact and frequency have increased as a result of climate change.

58. Activities will be implemented in partnership with the national committee on environmental protection, the national hydrometeorological service (Hydromet), the Ministry of Agriculture, the national committee on emergency situations and civil defence, district authorities, the other Rome-based agencies, UNICEF and other international and local non-governmental organizations and private sector entities.

Strategic Outcome 4: Government institutions at the central and decentralized levels have strengthened capacities to target, design and implement effective food security and nutrition strategies by 2024

59. Through this outcome, WFP will work to strengthen the capacities of public and private sector stakeholders to support the achievement of SDG 2 targets and overall SDG implementation through an evidence-based and equitable approach and enhanced preparedness systems.

Focus area

60. This outcome focuses on root causes and gaps in the development and management of food security and nutrition policies and programmes by national and subnational authorities, including on emergency preparedness.

Expected outputs

61. This outcome will be achieved through the following three outputs:
- Schoolchildren benefit from the improved capacities of local authorities to manage the school feeding programme and from the testing of direct procurement practices and systems.
 - Nutritionally vulnerable populations benefit from the improved capacities of the private sector to produce and market locally produced fortified foods.
 - Crisis-affected people benefit from the improved capacities of government institutions for emergency preparedness, early warning, and food security and nutrition monitoring.

Key activities

Activity 4: Strengthen the capacity of government institutions and schools to implement social protection programmes

62. WFP will strengthen the social protection capacities of national and subnational institutions, focusing on supporting government capacity to assume direct and sustainable management of the school feeding programme, including through policy design support. From the second year of the CSP, an increasing number of schoolchildren will be moved from a WFP-supported school feeding programme using in-kind food to cash transfers directly managed by schools for the local procurement of food for daily meals. Local procurement will reduce long-distance food transportation, minimizing environmental impact while promoting local agriculture. WFP will help schools improve their local procurement and funds management capacities during the first year of the cash-based transfer (CBT) model to ensure a smooth and successful handover of the programme to the Government the following year. The transition from in-kind to CBTs will be developed with the participation of men and women beneficiaries, including parent-teacher associations.

Activity 5: Provide policy advice and technical assistance to public institutions and private sector stakeholders involved in advocating for and implementing food security and nutrition programmes, including on emergency preparedness

63. The strategic review and the Fill the Nutrient Gap analysis identified the fortification of key food items as an effective way to address nutritional challenges. WFP will support public and private sector capacities to implement the law on food fortification that is going through the final stages of review and is expected to be approved by the beginning of the CSP.

64. WFP will provide technical support to strengthen emergency preparedness systems, as well as data and information platforms – which will ensure the provision of disaggregated data and multi-focal analyses, including with regard to gender and age – to facilitate an evidence-based approach to gender-equitable policy and programme design.
65. WFP will work with the ministries of health and social protection and education and science, the Chamber of Commerce, the national committee on emergency situations and civil defence, the national statistics agency, the Social and Industrial Foodservice Institute, Caritas Switzerland, UNICEF, WHO and the World Bank.

3.3 Transition and exit strategies

66. The CSP has been designed to ensure that WFP implements all activities with the ultimate objective of building capacities to enable handover to the Government, in alignment with government sectoral strategies and plans. The national school feeding strategy was developed with support from WFP, for example, and envisions a gradual handover of school feeding activities. The support in addressing malnutrition while building programme management capacities similarly follows the Government's plans to progressively replicate and scale up malnutrition prevention and management models. Climate change adaptation activities have been aligned with local government initiatives within the framework of the national disaster risk reduction strategy and district development plans. WFP will promote gender equality and women's empowerment across its interventions, unlocking potential in support of sustainable development.

4. Implementation arrangements

4.1 Beneficiary analysis

Strategic outcome	Activity	Girls	Boys	Women	Men	Total
1	1	357 000	357 000	4 500	1 500	720 000
2	2*	12 000	12 000	-	-	24 000
3	3	32 476	32 476	32 474	32 474	129 900
4	4	30 000	30 000	-	-	60 000
	5**	-	-	-	-	-
Total without overlap		431 476	431 476	36 974	33 974	933 900

* The beneficiaries in the table are those receiving nutrition treatment. Nutrition prevention activities have tier 2 and tier 3 beneficiaries only.

** Technical assistance activities have tier 2 and tier 3 beneficiaries only.

67. In support of the Government's vision of a phased approach to a national school feeding programme, WFP will continue to implement its school feeding programme for up to 714,000 primary schoolchildren aged 6–10 in food-insecure rural areas. During the CSP, schools will be gradually handed over to Tajik authorities as the management capacity of relevant authorities is established. Up to 6,000 adults will also benefit from food assistance under activity 1 in exchange for their support in preparing school meals.
68. For nutrition treatment activities, the five districts currently targeted were selected jointly with the Ministry of Health and Social Protection, based on their high malnutrition rates and the capacity of their public health centres in terms of human resources and infrastructure.

Under the CSP, up to 24,000 children aged 6–59 months will receive MAM treatment. Roll-out of the management model to other districts after mid-2021 will be designed with the ministry. Meanwhile, social and behaviour change communication approach will be used for malnutrition prevention across the country, targeting influencers, including men and women caregivers, to promote healthy nutrition and hygiene.

69. Participants of asset creation and livelihood support activities will be selected, using vulnerability criteria and gender analysis, through the national targeted social assistance programme, which identifies the poorest and most vulnerable households. A limited number of labour-constrained households (e.g., households including people with disabilities or elderly people) will be selected for asset creation activities, taking into consideration their capacity to support activities in different ways. WFP plans to ensure that 60 percent of beneficiaries are women, in order to contribute to women's empowerment. Participants will receive family rations, calculated using an average household size of five people. Beneficiary figures have been estimated using an estimated population gender ratio just below 1:1 male:female. As a result, although more women are targeted as participants the total beneficiary breakdown is estimated to be even by gender.
70. Capacity-strengthening activities will target public and private entities at the national and local levels, with the objective of enhancing skills and expertise to support the successful handover of the management of school feeding and nutrition assistance to the Government and to enhance the governance of food security and nutrition strategies and interventions, including preparedness, response capacity and gender equality.

4.2 Transfers

Food and cash-based transfers

	Strategic outcome 1		Strategic outcome 2	Strategic outcome 3		Strategic outcome 4
Activity	School feeding programme		Targeted supplementary feeding	Asset creation and livelihood support		School feeding
Beneficiary type	School children	Adults	Children aged 6–59 months	FFA/T participants	FFA participants	Schoolchildren
Modality	Food	Food	Food	Food	Cash	Cash
Cereals	150	150	-	400	-	-
Pulses	30	30	-	40	-	-
Oil	15	15	-	15	-	-
Salt	3	3	-	5	-	-
SuperCereal Plus	-	-	200	-	-	-
Total kcal/day	781	781	788	1 725	1 725	781
% kcal from protein	11.3	11.3	-	11.6	11.6	11.3
Cash (USD/person/day)	-	-	-	-	0.44	0.18
Number of feeding days per year	164	164	90	100	100	164

Abbreviation: FFA/T = food assistance for assets/food assistance for training

TABLE 3: TOTAL FOOD AND CASH-BASED TRANSFER REQUIREMENTS AND VALUES		
Food type/cash-based transfers	Total (mt)	Total (USD)
Cereals	42 968	22 634 096
Pulses	8 430	5 356 879
Oil and fats	4 194	4 292 102
Mixed and blended	432	442 013
Others	847	86 682
Total (food)	56 871	32 811 772
CBTs		8 080 000
Total (food and CBT value)	56 871	40 891 772

71. The selected food baskets are culturally acceptable and appropriate for the various categories of beneficiary and their daily nutritional requirements. The use of fortified foods is in line with recommendations from the Fill the Nutrient Gap analysis to facilitate the affordability of key nutrients for the various targeted groups. Food is fortified in accordance with WFP's standards for addressing micronutrient requirements. The use of SuperCereal Plus complies with national and international protocols for MAM treatment.
72. School meals comprised WFP-provided food items (pulses, iodized salt and enriched vegetable oil) and fresh foods provided by parent-teacher associations for the preparation of hot soups and other dishes consumed with bread made with WFP fortified wheat flour. To strengthen the procurement capacity of school authorities, WFP will move some schools to CBTs with a transfer value equivalent to the in-kind assistance provided by WFP.
73. The value of entitlements under strategic outcome 3 takes into account the cost of the basic food basket and labour. The decision to use in-kind transfers or CBTs and the CBT value are based on gender analysis and market price, efficiency and beneficiary preference assessments. WFP will continually monitor market prices and adjust CBT values to ensure that beneficiary purchasing power remains steady.

Capacity strengthening including South-South cooperation

74. Capacity strengthening is a key component of this CSP. Capacity development and technical assistance will be provided to partner institutions including the Government, communities and civil society under every outcome, and outcome 4 is dedicated to enhancing national capacity. WFP will also promote South-South cooperation, which will allow the Government to benefit from the experiences of neighbouring countries in all programmatic areas, including school feeding and food fortification.

4.3 Supply chain

75. Although goods are procured locally whenever possible, most food and non-food items are purchased from Kazakhstan, the Russian Federation or outside the region and transported by rail to Tajikistan. International price fluctuations and logistics challenges are compounded by the local climate, particularly in winter. During the CSP, WFP will explore opportunities for introducing local procurement for school feeding in targeted areas, in collaboration with the other Rome-based agencies and other partners.

4.4 Country office capacity and profile

76. WFP's field presence in Tajikistan is one of its comparative advantages; it has four sub-offices that cover the whole country. WFP staff will receive extra support to enable them to carry out national and local capacity-strengthening activities, develop partnerships, coordinate activities and communicate results effectively.
77. WFP will also enhance the country office's capacity for food security policy analysis and evaluation research to support evidence-based advocacy and programming. Technical support from specialized institutions in Tajikistan and beyond will be sought to supplement all programmatic areas, ensuring that the country benefits from the latest global developments.

4.5 Partnerships

78. The Government of Tajikistan, in particular through the ministries of health and social protection and education and science, as well as the committees on emergency situations, environmental protection, and women and family affairs, will remain WFP's main partner. At the subnational level WFP will collaborate with regional and district governments to foster food security and support the Government's intersectoral coordination, including through the school feeding inter-ministerial working group and the SUN movement.
79. WFP leads several initiatives of the United Nations country team, including the production of a resilience and vulnerability atlas and the coordination of the cash working group in cooperation with UNICEF, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations Development Programme and the Aga Khan Agency for Habitat. WFP will continue to play a leading role in inter-agency efforts on emergency preparedness and response, supporting the rapid emergency assessment and coordination team at the national and regional levels and the preparation of inter-agency contingency plans for natural and human-caused disasters. Collaboration with the other Rome-based agencies to promote sustainable food systems will be enhanced.
80. WFP continues to play an active role in the Development Coordination Council and working groups concerning food security and nutrition, which facilitate coordination between the Government and development partners. WFP's participation in the Council facilitates continuous dialogue with donors to WFP operations, programme partners and other stakeholders, thus ensuring that activities reflect the shared priorities of the Government, WFP and other stakeholders.
81. WFP will foster sustainable food systems by developing partnerships with the private sector to improve supply chains, thereby increasing the availability of affordable nutritious foods, while mobilizing resources and enhancing the visibility of WFP-supported initiatives.
82. Partnerships with academic and research institutions such as Columbia University, the University of Central Asia and the Tajik Agrarian University will be expanded as part of evidence-based advocacy.

5. Performance management and evaluation

5.1 Monitoring and evaluation arrangements

83. Implementation of the CSP will be supported by a gender-responsive monitoring, review and evaluation plan that will guide the monitoring of all WFP interventions. In line with a recommendation resulting from the mid-term review of the current UNDAF and WFP corporate policy, the country office will continue to collect age- and sex-disaggregated data and to systematically integrate gender analysis into the entire activity cycle.

84. A new unit will be established in the country office to cover the monitoring, evaluation and food security analysis portfolios. The introduction of mobile data collection applications will improve the effectiveness and efficiency of WFP monitoring, while the introduction of a new hotline will strengthen the beneficiary complaint and feedback mechanism. Monthly qualitative analyses will inform internal reports such as country briefs, monitoring reports and the annual country report.
85. The CSP and its components will be assessed through several evaluations. For the climate change adaptation component, which is supported by the Green Climate Fund, the country office will conduct a mid-term evaluation in 2020 and a final evaluation in 2022. These two decentralized evaluations will inform the development of WFP's global climate adaptation approach. In addition, a mid-term review will be conducted in 2021 and a CSP evaluation will take place in 2023.
86. The Government has requested support from the United Nations in monitoring progress towards the SDGs and the SDG indicators used in the NDS-2030. The United Nations country team is providing support through the UNDAF outcome result groups and is planning to strengthen this support in the next UNDAF cycle. Through the United Nations country team, WFP contributes to the Government's annual report on the progress of its national strategies in the context of the SDGs.²⁹

5.2 Risk management

Strategic risks

87. Insufficient funding may hamper implementation of planned activities, limiting WFP's contribution to the national SDG agenda and current UNDAF objectives. Along with the consolidation of its traditional donor base in Tajikistan, WFP will explore opportunities to collaborate with non-traditional donors. The Government will be encouraged to increase its contribution to relevant activities.
88. WFP's ability to respond timely to requests for support during small-scale emergencies in Tajikistan could be jeopardized by insufficient funding. WFP will mitigate this risk by carrying out preparedness activities, developing contingency plans, engaging in emergency response coordination platforms and enhancing the preparedness capacities of national stakeholders.

Operational risks

89. Limited capacities of cooperating partners could significantly impair the quality of programme delivery. To address this risk, WFP will carry out capacity-building activities with its partners, including local non-governmental organizations. WFP will also periodically conduct partner mapping exercises.
90. Gender inequality, if left unaddressed, could hinder the successful implementation of the CSP. WFP will take gender considerations into account throughout all activities, promoting gender equality through programmes and partnerships. WFP is continuing to enhance and expand its beneficiary feedback mechanisms and accountability to affected populations tools.

Fiduciary risks

91. No major fiduciary risks are foreseen.

Financial risks

92. No major financial risks are foreseen.

²⁹ Tajikistan Ministry of Economic Development and Trade. 2018. *National Report on Implementation of Strategic Documents of the country in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals*. Available at http://medt.tj/documents/main/strategic_national_programm/ReportV4%5bENG%5d.pdf.

6. Resources for results

6.1 Country portfolio budget

Strategic outcome	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Total
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	
1	5 571 657	10 924 708	10 396 364	9 520 524	8 928 966	4 216 819	49 559 038
2	357 459	609 590	712 717	702 415	707 918	393 593	3 483 693
3	1 035 272	2 283 304	2 164 890	2 229 661	2 163 342	1 152 871	11 029 340
4	1 406 552	2 904 378	3 337 902	3 739 037	4 141 370	2 435 572	17 964 810
Total	8 370 940	16 721 981	16 611 873	16 191 637	15 941 595	8 198 856	82 036 882

93. The CSP has a budget of USD 82 million. This covers the twin-track approach of increasing capacity strengthening and technical assistance while honouring operational commitments to the Government and donors to implement social protection, nutrition and climate change adaptation activities. WFP will allocate adequate financial resources for activities designed to contribute to gender equality.

6.2 Resourcing outlook

94. Of the four strategic outcomes, strategic outcome 2 is fully funded for two years, and strategic outcome 3 for more than three years, with generous contributions from USAID and the Green Climate Fund. Based on past trends and ongoing discussions, there are indications that the Russian Federation will continue to support the WFP school feeding programme, including its capacity-building component under strategic outcome 4.

6.3 Resource mobilization strategy

95. Achieving the strategic outcomes of this CSP will require sustained financial support to ensure uninterrupted engagement. WFP will develop a resource mobilization strategy, in accordance with which it will seek long-term and flexible funding from existing donors, private sector and new donors. WFP will continue to play an active role in the development landscape of Tajikistan (e.g. within coordination groups such as the Development Coordination Council, hosting partner meetings and other activities) to ensure that partners are engaged and aware of WFP's strategy in the country. Aside from financial support, WFP will seek in-kind support in the form of physical, intellectual and human resources from various partners. In-kind contributions from the Government of Tajikistan and communities will form an integral part of CSP resources. For the activities under strategic outcome 4, a programme financing strategy will be developed to ensure that the Government can implement the activities sustainably.

ANNEX I**LOGICAL FRAMEWORK FOR TAJIKISTAN COUNTRY STRATEGIC PLAN****Strategic Goal 1: Support countries to achieve zero hunger****Strategic Objective 1: End hunger by protecting access to food****Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food****Strategic outcome 1: Food-insecure vulnerable people, including primary schoolchildren, in targeted districts meet their basic food requirements by 2024**Outcome category:
Maintained/enhanced
individual and household
access to adequate food

Nutrition sensitive

Focus area: Root causes

Assumptions

No pipeline break

Engagement of the government to integrate activities into the social protection system

Outcome indicators

Gender ratio

Retention rate/Drop-out rate (new)

Activities and outputs**1. Provide nutritionally balanced school meals to targeted schoolchildren (SMP: School meal activities)**

Girls and boys of primary school age in targeted schools are provided with nutritionally balanced daily school meals that meet their basic food and nutrition needs (A: Resources transferred)

Girls and boys of primary school age in targeted schools are provided with nutritionally balanced daily school meals that meet their basic food and nutrition needs (B: Nutritious foods provided)

Girls and boys of primary school age in targeted schools are provided with nutritionally balanced daily school meals that meet their basic food and nutrition needs (N*: School feeding provided)

Girls and boys of primary school age receive age-appropriate nutrition education that improves their nutrition awareness and behaviour (E: Advocacy and education provided)

Strategic Objective 2: Improve nutrition

Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition

Strategic outcome 2: Vulnerable groups, especially children aged 6–59 months and pregnant and lactating women and girls, in districts where the national integrated management of acute malnutrition protocol is being rolled out have reduced levels of malnutrition by 2024

Outcome category:
Improved consumption of high-quality, nutrient-dense foods among targeted individuals

Focus area: Root causes

Assumptions

No pipeline break

Capacity of the government to implement

Outcome indicators

MAM Treatment Default rate

MAM Treatment Mortality rate

MAM Treatment Non-response rate

MAM Treatment Recovery rate

Proportion of eligible population that participates in programme (coverage)

Proportion of target population that participates in an adequate number of distributions (adherence)

Activities and outputs**2. Treat moderate acute malnutrition in children aged 6–59 months and implement malnutrition prevention activities using social and behaviour change communication with vulnerable groups while building the Government's capacity to manage nutrition programmes (NTA: Nutrition treatment activities)**

Targeted beneficiaries in selected districts are provided with specialized nutritious foods in order to address malnutrition (A: Resources transferred)

Targeted beneficiaries in selected districts are provided with specialized nutritious foods in order to address malnutrition (B: Nutritious foods provided)

Vulnerable people benefit from the improved capacities of local health authorities to manage integrated management of acute malnutrition programmes, including through the digitalization of reporting and monitoring (C: Capacity development and technical support provided)

Community members in targeted districts learn appropriate nutrition-sensitive practices that prevent malnutrition (E*: Social and behaviour change communication (SBCC) delivered)

Strategic Objective 3: Achieve food security**Strategic Result 4: Food systems are sustainable****Strategic outcome 3: Targeted food-insecure communities in areas vulnerable to climate change have increased their resilience to shocks by 2024**

Outcome category:
Improved household
adaptation and resilience
to climate and other shocks

Focus area: Resilience building

Assumptions

No pipeline break

Availability of capable stakeholders

Engagement of communities and prioritization of activities

Outcome indicators

Food Consumption Score

Food expenditure share

Proportion of targeted communities where there is evidence of improved capacity to manage climate shocks and risks

Proportion of the population in targeted communities reporting benefits from an enhanced livelihoods asset base

Activities and outputs

3. Carry out climate adaptation, asset creation and livelihood activities aimed at fostering resilience to shocks and stressors and conduct early response activities in the event of a small-scale disaster (ACL: Asset creation and livelihood support activities)

Targeted vulnerable households receive food assistance that meets their immediate food needs and enables them to improve their livelihoods (A: Resources transferred)

Targeted vulnerable households receive food assistance that meets their immediate food needs and enables them to improve their livelihoods (B: Nutritious foods provided)

Targeted communities benefit from new and rehabilitated productive assets that improve their resilience to climate shocks and other stressors and enable them to improve their food security (D: Assets created)

Targeted vulnerable households benefit from climate services, technology transfer and improved capacities that enable them to diversify their livelihoods, build resilience and adapt to climate change (C: Capacity development and technical support provided)

Strategic Goal 2: Partner to support implementation of the SDGs

Strategic Objective 4: Support SDG implementation

Strategic Result 5: Countries have strengthened capacity to implement the SDGs

Strategic outcome 4: Government institutions at the central and decentralized levels have strengthened capacities to target, design and implement effective food security and nutrition strategies by 2024

Outcome category:
Enhanced capacities of public- and private-sector institutions and systems, including local responders, to identify, target and assist food-insecure and nutritionally vulnerable populations

Focus area: Root causes

Assumptions

Resource shortfall

Outcome indicators

Emergency Preparedness Capacity Index

Number of national food security and nutrition policies, programmes and system components enhanced as a result of WFP capacity strengthening (new)

SABER School Feeding National Capacity (new)

Activities and outputs**5. Provide policy advice and technical assistance to public institutions and private sector stakeholders involved in advocating for and implementing food security and nutrition programmes, including on emergency preparedness (CSI: Institutional capacity strengthening activities)**

Nutritionally vulnerable populations benefit from the improved capacities of the private sector to produce and market locally produced fortified foods (C: Capacity development and technical support provided)

Nutritionally vulnerable populations benefit from the improved capacities of the private sector to produce and market locally produced fortified foods (M: National coordination mechanisms supported)

Crisis-affected people benefit from the improved capacities of government institutions for emergency preparedness, early warning, and food security and nutrition monitoring (C: Capacity development and technical support provided)

4. Strengthen the capacity of government institutions and schools to implement social protection programmes (SMP: School meal activities)

Schoolchildren benefit from the improved capacities of local authorities to manage the school feeding programme and from the testing of direct procurement practices and systems (A: Resources transferred)

Schoolchildren benefit from the improved capacities of local authorities to manage the school feeding programme and from the testing of direct procurement practices and systems (M: National coordination mechanisms supported)

Goal 1: Support countries to achieve zero hunger**C.1. Affected populations are able to hold WFP and partners accountable for meeting their hunger needs in a manner that reflects their views and preferences****Cross-cutting indicators**

C.1.1: Proportion of assisted people informed about the programme (who is included, what people will receive, length of assistance)

C.1.2: Proportion of activities for which beneficiary feedback is documented, analysed and integrated into programme improvements

C.2. Affected populations are able to benefit from WFP programmes in a manner that ensures and promotes their safety, dignity and integrity**Cross-cutting indicators**

C.2.2: Proportion of targeted people receiving assistance without safety challenges (new)

C.2.3: Proportion of targeted people who report that WFP programmes are dignified (new)

C.2.4: Proportion of targeted people having unhindered access to WFP programmes (new)

C.3. Improved gender equality and women's empowerment among WFP-assisted population**Cross-cutting indicators**

C.3.1: Proportion of households where women, men, or both women and men make decisions on the use of food/cash/vouchers, disaggregated by transfer modality

C.3.2: Proportion of food assistance decision making entity – committees, boards, teams, etc. – members who are women

C.3.3: Type of transfer (food, cash, voucher, no compensation) received by participants in WFP activities, disaggregated by sex and type of activity

C.4. Targeted communities benefit from WFP programmes in a manner that does not harm the environment**Cross-cutting indicators**

C.4.1: Proportion of activities for which environmental risks have been screened and, as required, mitigation actions identified

ANNEX II

INDICATIVE COST BREAKDOWN BY STRATEGIC OUTCOME (USD)					
	Strategic Result 1	Strategic Result 2	Strategic Result 4	Strategic Result 5	Total
	Strategic outcome 1	Strategic outcome 2	Strategic outcome 3	Strategic outcome 4	
Transfers	37 643 364	2 165 063	7 791 713	13 393 763	60 993 902
Implementation	4 767 631	813 265	1 640 336	1 949 495	9 170 727
Direct support cost	4 123 314	292 746	924 139	1 525 108	6 865 307
Subtotal	46 534 308	3 271 073	10 356 188	16 868 367	77 029 936
Indirect support costs	3 024 730	212 620	673 152	1 096 444	5 006 946
Total	49 559 038	3 483 693	11 029 340	17 964 810	82 036 882

Acronyms used in the document

CBT	cash-based transfer
CODA	Conditional on Demand Assistance
CSP	country strategic plan
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
GIZ	<i>Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit</i>
MAM	moderate acute malnutrition
NDS	national development strategy
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SUN	Scaling Up Nutrition
UNDAF	United Nations development assistance framework
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
WHO	World Health Organization