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Operational matters – Country strategic plans

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Draft Kyrgyz Republic country strategic plan (2023–2027)

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Total cost to WFP	USD 90,939,116
Gender and age marker*	4

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

Executive summary

The Kyrgyz Republic has made great strides towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, with significant improvements in primary and secondary education and a notable reduction in poverty and stunting. However, the country remains highly dependent on food imports and remittances, and faces increasing risks from national and regional instability and climate-related shocks. The conflict between the Russian Federation and Ukraine is likely to have a spillover effect in the Kyrgyz Republic, limiting growth and purchasing power. Building on the progress made and mindful of the fragility of certain development achievements, WFP's country strategic plan for 2023–2027 seeks to strengthen and sustain the country's social and disaster risk management systems while maintaining capacity for crisis response.

The country strategic plan for 2023–2027 is structured to reflect the key priorities of the Kyrgyz Government and seeks to enhance access to healthy diets, rural development, disaster risk management and climate change adaptation through a "leave no one behind" and nutrition-centred approach.

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WFP will contribute to the United Nations sustainable development cooperation framework through the following four country strategic plan outcomes, leveraging its comparative advantages in the Kyrgyz Republic:

- *Outcome 1:* By 2027, food-insecure and vulnerable populations in the Kyrgyz Republic have enhanced access to diversified employment, income opportunities and human capital development.
- *Outcome 2:* Vulnerable populations in crisis-affected areas in the Kyrgyz Republic can meet their food and nutrition needs, enabling early recovery during and in the aftermath of crises.
- *Outcome 3:* By 2027, vulnerable communities in the Kyrgyz Republic exposed to the impacts of climate variability and change are better able to cope with shocks and benefit from more resilient food systems.
- *Outcome 4:* By 2027, schools in the Kyrgyz Republic have strengthened capacity to provide healthy meals to children and create sustainable school feeding solutions for improved health, nutrition, education and food security outcomes.

WFP will build on the achievements under the country strategic plan for 2018–2022 and leverage its core competencies in warehousing, food safety, smallholder market access, and innovative and private sector-oriented solutions including insurance and digital public goods. Capacity strengthening activities at the institutional, community and individual levels will be mainstreamed to increase sustainability.

WFP will also strengthen research, assessments, monitoring and evaluation, both internally and in support of national systems.

Building on the 2021 United Nations food systems summit dialogues facilitated by the Rome-based agencies and nutrition and social protection assessments conducted with the United Nations Children's Fund in 2021 and 2022, WFP will strengthen key partnerships within the United Nations country team and other actors, including civil society actors, private sector entities and national institutions, to ensure that approaches piloted jointly are sustainably brought to scale within national systems.

Draft decision*

The Board approves the Kyrgyz Republic country strategic plan (2023–2027) (WFP/EB.2/2022/X-X/X) at a total cost to WFP of USD 90,939,116.

* 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. The Kyrgyz Republic is a small, landlocked Central Asian country with high mountains covering over two thirds of its territory and only 12 percent arable land.¹ Around two thirds of the country's 6.7 million people live in rural areas, which are home to half the population under 24 years of age. The informal economy accounts for around 40 percent of gross domestic product (GDP) and 74 percent of the labour market.²
2. There have been improvements in socioeconomic indicators over past decades. Poverty halved from almost 40 percent in 2006 to 20 percent in 2019. Gross national income (GNI) per capita rose from USD 500 in 2006 to USD 1,160 in 2020.³ However, the impact of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic increased poverty to 25 percent in 2020.⁴ Moreover, with a GNI 40 percent lower than the average for the Caucasus and Central Asia, growth has been volatile and lags behind neighbouring countries.
3. The country's economy has yet to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic, and the continuous threat from COVID-19, a rise in food and fuel prices and heightened geopolitical risks in the region are combining to hamper recovery.
4. Up to 1 million Kyrgyz citizens, 40 percent of the labour force, work abroad. Remittances accounted for 31 percent of gross domestic product (GDP) in 2020, the third highest share in the world. In 2021, 80 percent of remittances originated from the Russian Federation. As a consequence of the conflict between the Russian Federation and Ukraine, however, remittances are likely to decline⁵ and many Kyrgyz citizens may return home. As remittances are almost entirely spent on immediate consumption,⁶ their reduction will jeopardize household capacity to meet essential needs.
5. The Kyrgyz Republic is highly vulnerable to climate change due to its topography and poor infrastructure. Natural hazards affected by climate change such as heatwaves, floods and droughts have increased in scale and frequency by 150 percent since 2010.⁷ Temperature increases of over 5°C are projected by 2090 and water resources are expected to decline dramatically as glaciers melt.⁸
6. The Kyrgyz Republic has experienced 11 changes of government in the last 11 years, which has hampered implementation of long-term policies, weakened administrative capacity and reduced the fiscal space for investment in social protection, health and education.
7. The United Nations has forecast that the population of the Kyrgyz Republic will exceed 9 million by 2050.⁹ Education is compulsory and free for the first 10 years of schooling. In 2018, net enrolment and attendance rates were over 90 percent for both girls and boys, with little disparity between socioeconomic groups or urban and rural populations.¹⁰

¹ Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. 2020. *Smallholders and family farms in Kyrgyzstan. Country study report 2019*.

² United Nations. 2021. *United Nations Common Country Analysis for the Kyrgyz Republic*.

³ World Bank. 2020. *GNI per capita, Atlas method (current US\$) – Kyrgyz Republic*.

⁴ National Statistical Committee of the Kyrgyz Republic. 2021. *Living standards webpage*.

⁵ World Bank. 2022. *Russia-Ukraine Conflict: Implications for Remittance flows to Ukraine and Central Asia*.

⁶ WFP and International Organization for Migration. 2021. *Migration, Food Security and Nutrition in the Kyrgyz Republic*.

⁷ United Nations. 2021. *United Nations Common Country Analysis for the Kyrgyz Republic*.

⁸ Asian Development Bank and World Bank. 2021. *Climate Risk Country Profile: Kyrgyz Republic*.

⁹ United Nations. 2021. *United Nations Common Country Analysis for the Kyrgyz Republic*.

¹⁰ National Statistical Committee of the Kyrgyz Republic and United Nations Children's Fund. 2019. *Kyrgyz Republic Multiple indicator cluster survey 2018: Survey findings report*.

8. The Kyrgyz Republic ranks 82nd of 162 countries on the Gender Inequality Index.¹¹ Although its constitution guarantees equal rights to men and women, women face pervasive gender stereotypes that contribute to gender-based violence and limits their participation in labour markets and ownership of land.

1.2 Progress towards the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

9. The Government of the Kyrgyz Republic has adopted a national development strategy for 2018–2040 and incorporated the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) into its public policies and strategies, including the national development plan for 2021–2026 (NDP).
10. The Kyrgyz Republic's voluntary national review on the implementation of the SDGs¹² notes progress but also identifies a need to reform the digital economy to create attractive conditions for entrepreneurs and investors and to enhance the use of innovative and environmentally friendly technologies in line with regional economic and social development priorities. As the Kyrgyz Republic does not have an effective shock-responsive social protection system,¹³ the COVID-19 pandemic and geopolitical events since 2020 have also affected SDG progress.

1.3 Progress towards Sustainable Development Goals 2 and 17

Progress on Sustainable Development Goal 2 targets

11. *Access to food.* While the prevalence of undernourishment has improved slightly since 2000, in 2019 48 percent of the population could not afford a healthy diet¹⁴ and in 2020 45 percent of the population consumed less than 2,100 kcal a day (the number of calories necessary to provide sufficient energy).¹⁵ With poverty at high levels and the poorest already spending 65 percent of their money on food,¹⁶ rising prices may further affect food accessibility.
12. *End malnutrition.* Significant progress has been made in reducing stunting in children age 6–59 months. Micronutrient deficiencies persist, however, with 38 percent of children estimated to be anaemic. Prevalence of anaemia among women of reproductive age and pregnant women is also high (36 percent in 2019).¹⁷ Overweight and obesity are on the rise¹⁸ and interventions in human capital development during the first 8,000 days of life are increasingly important to ensure that good health and nutrition benefits are sustained.¹⁹
13. *Smallholder productivity and sustainable food systems.* The agriculture sector remains fragmented and inefficient. Agriculture as a share of GDP shrank from 37 percent in 2000 to 15 percent in 2021²⁰ despite employing around 20 percent of the workforce. Smallholder farmers produce over 60 percent of agricultural output.²¹ Although cereal production is

¹¹ United Nations Development Programme. 2020. *Human Development Report 2020. The Next Frontier: Human Development and the Anthropocene. Kyrgyzstan, Briefing note for countries on the 2020 Human Development Report.*

¹² Government of the Kyrgyz Republic. 2020. *Voluntary National Review on the Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals in the Kyrgyz Republic, 2020.*

¹³ Asian Development Bank. 2021. *COVID-19 and Social Protection in Asia and the Pacific: Projected Costs for 2020–2030.*

¹⁴ WFP and National Statistical Committee. 2021. *Poverty, Food Security and Nutrition Analysis in the Context of COVID-19 and the Role of Social Protection in the Kyrgyz Republic.*

¹⁵ Online platform: Sustainable Development Goals in the Kyrgyz Republic: *Indicator 2.1.1: prevalence of undernourishment.*

¹⁶ *Ibid.*

¹⁷ Global Nutrition Report. 2021. *Global Nutrition Report | Country Nutrition Profiles: Kyrgyzstan.*

¹⁸ *Ibid.*

¹⁹ United Nations country team. 2021. *United Nations Common Country Analysis for the Kyrgyz Republic.*

²⁰ National Statistical Committee of the Kyrgyz Republic. *Structure of GDP by types of economical activity.*

²¹ *Ibid.*

reported to be on track to meet SDG targets,²² food production is threatened by challenges in trade flows, rising prices for agricultural inputs and the country's high vulnerability to climate change, which affects crop production.

Progress on Sustainable Development Goal 17 targets

14. *Policy coherence.* The Government has demonstrated its commitment to the SDGs and the zero hunger agenda by activating a food security council, adopting its second food security and nutrition programme (covering 2019–2023), approving a school meals law in 2019 and participating in the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) movement.
15. *Diversified resourcing.* The country's large informal economy hampers efforts to increase fiscal space through taxation or diversified donor funding, including for debt relief. In 2020 the United Nations and the Government launched an integrated national financing framework process to strengthen budget planning for financing the SDGs. Through the United Nations sustainable development cooperation framework (UNSDCF), the United Nations commits to helping attract private sector investment, especially innovative climate financing.
16. *Capacity strengthening.* High government turnover and the volatile circumstances in the Kyrgyz Republic pose challenges to the implementation and sustainability of food security, nutrition and social protection management efforts.
17. *Enhance global partnership.* The Kyrgyz Republic is promoting the adoption of a plan for 2023–2027 under the rubric "Five Years of Action for the Development of Mountain Regions" in order to raise awareness of melting glaciers and mountain ecosystems.

1.4 Hunger gaps and challenges

18. The Kyrgyz Republic is heavily dependent on food imports, primarily wheat and vegetable oil from the Russian Federation and Kazakhstan. This makes the country highly vulnerable to regional price shocks and currency fluctuations. As inflation and food prices increase, families see their purchasing power fall. Among the urban poor and vulnerable, less than 3 percent receive government benefits for the poorest families with children.²³
19. Although employment in the agricultural sector has dropped, it employs over 700,000 rural households.²⁴ Most agricultural employment is informal, however, leaving many farmers without access to knowledge, extension services, state or private-sector insurance schemes or shock-responsive social protection.²⁵
20. In 2020, 20 percent of women worked in agriculture (compared to 17 percent of men)²⁶ and suffered limited access to productive assets, financial capital and opportunities for land ownership. Gender norms intersect with other socioeconomic and political factors, exacerbating vulnerabilities. Among poor households, 14 percent have at least one member with physical or mental disabilities.²⁷ Although the Government ratified the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in 2019, the legal framework for supporting persons with disabilities is limited. The youth unemployment rate was around three times the general unemployment rate in 2019, and 350,000 young people enter the

²² Sachs, J., Lafortune, G., Kroll, C., Fuller, G. and Woelm, F. 2022. [Webpage on Kyrgyz Republic from Sustainable Development Report 2022.](#)

²³ *Ibid.*

²⁴ Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. 2020. [Smallholders and family farms in Kyrgyzstan. Country study report 2019.](#)

²⁵ Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. 2019. [Developing capacity for strengthening food security and nutrition in Kyrgyzstan.](#)

²⁶ National Statistical Committee of the Kyrgyz Republic. 2021. [Women and Men in the Kyrgyz Republic 2016–2020.](#)

²⁷ United Nations country team. 2021. [United Nations Common Country Analysis for the Kyrgyz Republic.](#)

labour market each year – far exceeding demand.²⁸ Despite growing unemployment and poverty, active labour market programmes in the country are extremely limited, representing only 0.9 percent of total government spending and serving approximately 40,000 people.²⁹

21. Environmental mismanagement and overexploitation of natural resources continue to exacerbate the impact of climate change. Melting glaciers will lead to an increase in water resources initially and then a decline after 2025, leading to desertification and droughts.³⁰ An estimated 40 percent of water is already lost due to inefficient irrigation.³¹ Adoption of climate-smart agriculture practices remains limited in the country due to inadequate infrastructure and financing and weak extension services.
22. The COVID-19 pandemic, cross-border conflicts with Tajikistan and the decline in the Russian economy exacerbate underlying vulnerabilities and have already deepened inequality.³² Although the Kyrgyz Government spends nearly one third of its budget on social protection, education and health services,³³ its social protection schemes face severe constraints and did not cover the most vulnerable at the onset of the pandemic.³⁴

2. Strategic implications for WFP

2.1 Achievements, lessons learned and strategic changes for WFP

Achievements

23. WFP has been helping the Government to optimize the design and implementation of the national school meals programme (NSMP), which initially provided simple snacks of tea and bread to all primary school-age children. Thanks to support from WFP and partners, more than 60 percent of schools nationwide now serve diverse and nutritious hot meals to schoolchildren in grades 1–4, meeting their energy and nutrition needs. In 2019 the Government passed the law on school meals, which ensures the right of every primary schoolchild to receive safe, diverse and nutritious school meals and paves the way for further development and sustainability of the school meals programme.
24. WFP continues to hand over to the Government downstream logistics such as warehouses and transport contracts for its food-based community asset creation and human capital development activities. Lessons learned and best practices inform national public works and, as recommended by evaluations,³⁵ WFP is integrating its activities into the national social protection system. WFP launched a social contract pilot in 2021, which was the first integrated poverty graduation programme in the country, implemented with the Ministry of Labour, Social Security and Migration and built on the lessons learned from earlier WFP, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and World Bank activities. This programme provides an array of support, including business development coaching, start-up grants and social services for employment opportunities aimed at lifting families

²⁸ *Ibid.*

²⁹ *Ibid.*

³⁰ WFP. 2018. *Climate services and diversification of climate sensitive livelihoods to empower food insecure and vulnerable communities in the Kyrgyz Republic*. Funding Proposal SAP002 to Green Climate Fund.

³¹ International Center for Tropical Agriculture and World Bank. 2018. *Climate-Resilient Agriculture in the Kyrgyz Republic. CSA Country Profiles for Asia Series*.

³² United Nations Population Fund. 2020. *COVID-19 Impacts on Livelihoods of Women and Men in the Kyrgyz Republic - Gender Rapid Assessment as of 15 May 2020*.

³³ Ministry of Finance of Kyrgyz Republic. 2021. *Press release on 2022 budget and forecast for 2023–2024*.

³⁴ United Nations country team. 2021. *United Nations Common Country Analysis for the Kyrgyz Republic*.

³⁵ This is highlighted in the evaluation of the country portfolio 2008–2012, the mid-term evaluation for 2014–2016 and the country strategic plan evaluation for 2018–2022.

out of poverty. Humanitarian partners have highlighted the value of WFP's leading role in the food security and logistics clusters in the disaster response coordination unit, as well as in supporting evidence generation. WFP has also worked with government partners to develop early warning systems and coordination platforms such as the Information Analysis and Management System to register and analyse disasters.

Lessons learned

25. The evaluation of the Kyrgyz Republic country strategic plan (CSP) for 2018–2022 highlighted the increased visibility of WFP's contributions to national country capacity strengthening and noted that WFP has a strong field presence and a reputation for practical, proactive and flexible responsiveness.
26. Recommendations from the evaluation have been incorporated into the design of this CSP and include the following:
 - Increase strategic positioning on social protection programming and coherence within the programme.
 - Refine and reassess coverage and targeting to better reach previously excluded extremely vulnerable groups and potential new beneficiary groups (including by integrating options for unconditional transfers).
 - Increase partnerships to enhance complementary programming and the sustainability and diversity of the funding base.
 - Increase the evidence base to better track WFP's contributions to long-term development outcomes and systems strengthening.
27. Learning was also extracted from the evaluation of the United Nations development assistance framework for the Kyrgyz Republic and WFP global evaluations. The strategic evaluation of WFP's support for enhanced resilience³⁶ recommended building on integrated context analyses to promote the "convergence" of WFP-supported programmes in order to enhance resilience-related capacity.³⁷ The strategic evaluation of WFP's use of technology in constrained environments recommended accelerating progress made in building partner capacity in the use of digital technologies and data.

Strategic changes for WFP

28. The CSP for 2023–2027 will be focused on complementing and aligning with the Government's social protection system and strengthening national targeting processes to ensure that the most vulnerable people are included and that shock-responsive mechanisms are strengthened. The major strategic shift is a stronger focus on resilience building achieved through a development-centric, long-term approach, with the addition of a new contingency measure that will allow WFP to augment the Government's response to food insecurity and threats to development gains brought about during and in the aftermath of shocks.

³⁶ WFP. 2019. *Strategic Evaluation of WFP Support for Enhanced Resilience*.

³⁷ For instance, by introducing a combination of interventions for smallholder farmers that result in better access to markets and reliable income, which in turn strengthens their resilience to shocks.

2.2 Alignment with national development plans, the United Nations sustainable development cooperation framework and other frameworks

29. The CSP is aligned with the national priorities set out in the national development strategy for 2018–2040, such as social and economic development with a focus on human capital, leading to inclusive social protection, employment creation and climate change adaptation (CCA). In the NDP³⁸ the Government recognizes the need to improve targeting and efficiency for a stronger shock-responsive social protection system and makes food security a top priority of anti-crisis measures.
30. WFP activities are derived from the following 2023–2027 UNSDCF outcomes:
- Outcome 1: By 2027, the people of the Kyrgyz Republic, particularly vulnerable groups, have enhanced resilience, strengthened capabilities, and access to decent work, resulting in full enjoyment of their rights contributing to the socioeconomic and gender-transformative development of the country.
 - Outcome 2: By 2027, the well-being of the population of the Kyrgyz Republic will have improved through the further roll-out of a green economy based on sustainable and healthy food systems, natural resource management, and effective migration processes, by accelerating the use of gender-transformative social and technological innovation and entrepreneurship.
 - Outcome 3: By 2027, the Kyrgyz Republic has started the transition to low-carbon development and risk-informed climate resilience, contributing to people's fair and equitable access to ecosystem benefits and to empowerment of vulnerable communities in the governance of natural resources and disaster prevention.
31. WFP activities also contribute indirectly to the following UNSDCF outcome:
- Outcome 4: By 2027, all people in the Kyrgyz Republic enjoy the benefits of fair and accountable democratic institutions that are free from corruption and apply innovative solutions that promote respect for human rights, and strengthen peace and cohesion.
32. The crisis response CSP outcome is aligned with the interagency contingency plan of the disaster response and coordination unit, which has as its objective to "[p]rovide an accountable, predictable and coordinated emergency response to meet critical needs of all affected people."

2.3 Engagement with key stakeholders

33. The CSP builds on ongoing partnerships between WFP and other United Nations entities, the Government, international financial institutions, bilateral donors and academia as well as civil society partners. The design of this CSP was informed by extensive focus group discussions held in 2021 and 2022 during development of the new UNSDCF,³⁹ from which this CSP derives; stakeholder feedback obtained during a CSP evaluation workshop in 2022; beneficiary feedback collected from both women and men of various ages in preparation for the 2021 United Nations food systems summit and the nutrition for growth summit; the twenty-sixth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change; and consultations conducted to develop the partnerships outlined in this document. Through coordination with the WFP Tajikistan country office and other regional actors, cross-boundary, subregional and regional perspectives have also informed the design of the CSP.

³⁸ President of the Kyrgyz Republic. 2021. *National Development Programme until 2026*.

³⁹ United Nations. 2021. *Framing Futures: Kyrgyzstan Scenario Exercise*.

3. WFP strategic portfolio

3.1 Direction, focus and intended impacts

34. The strategic thinking and social protection focus that underpin this CSP have been guided by a joint United Nations scenario-planning and foresight workshop, evaluative assessments that identified WFP's competitive advantages and a comprehensive process to develop a theory of change.
35. The CSP introduces two major strategic shifts: an enhanced focus on resilience building that uses a long-term development-centred approach to WFP programmes and aligns them with the social protection system; and stronger national targeting processes to ensure that most vulnerable people are included and improve shock-responsive mechanisms.
36. Three theories of change were developed, setting out a sequence of steps to achieve the intended results. These focus on human capital development and income diversification through productive and preventive social protection measures; CCA, early warning and comprehensive disaster risk management that integrates risk financing tools for shock-responsive social protection; and sustainable technical and financial solutions for the optimized NSMP.
37. These factors come together to build capacity at the individual, household, community and systems levels to improve the management of food security and nutrition and enhance food systems by improving and diversifying production, increasing productivity and access to processing facilities, improving consumption practices and facilitating sustainable resource management.
38. The CSP includes a new contingency measure, in accordance with WFP's humanitarian protection policy, that will be used if the Government requests WFP support for its response to food and nutrition insecurity and threats to development gains brought about during and in the aftermath of shocks.
39. All CSP outcomes are interrelated and promote cross-cutting priorities. Outcomes will overlap in geographic areas with the most diverse vulnerabilities and risks, reflecting the need for more intensive development efforts to address multidimensional issues, and thus these areas are expected to benefit from WFP activities in multiple ways. In areas with fewer or no overlaps between CSP outcomes, WFP will provide less diverse direct support and will intensify partnerships to address needs. All field-level interventions will follow an integrated, participatory planning process and will be systematically verified at the subdistrict level throughout the year.
40. WFP will continue to provide the Government with technical assistance on integrating nutrition into the national social protection system. A gender-transformative social and behaviour change communication (SBCC) approach will be designed for all outcomes to improve awareness of the importance of consuming healthy and nutritious food to address the triple burden of malnutrition, particularly among school-age children, adolescents and women of reproductive age.
41. The Government is committed to continuing its provision of warehouses in Bishkek and Osh at no cost, organizing in-country food transportation to food distribution points and handling services at the Bishkek and Osh warehouses. WFP will continue to strengthen its technical expertise to the Government in warehousing capacity, quality assurance mechanisms and customs process optimization.

42. Government capacity strengthening activities will be guided by the capacity development strategy informed by the capacity gap assessment for the overall portfolio, with attention to achieving coherence across outcomes and leveraging opportunities for South-South and triangular cooperation. WFP will place greater emphasis on partnerships and joint programming to strengthen complementarities among social protection partners, informed by ongoing Core Diagnostic Instrument and Capacity for Disaster Reduction Initiative assessments.

3.2 Country strategic plan outcomes, WFP strategic outcomes, focus areas, expected outputs and key activities

Country strategic plan outcome 1: By 2027, food-insecure and vulnerable populations in the Kyrgyz Republic have enhanced access to diversified employment, income opportunities and human capital development

43. WFP will strengthen the capacity of food-insecure and vulnerable households by providing access to food, assets and livelihood options. WFP will also support the capacity of institutions to improve inclusive social protection as part of government-led active labour market programmes. This work will comprise the scale-up of new WFP-piloted approaches designed to strengthen the protective, preventive and promotive functions of social protection and improve targeting.

WFP strategic outcome

44. This outcome contributes to WFP strategic outcome 2 (People have better nutrition, health and education outcomes).

Focus area

45. The focus area of this CSP outcome is resilience building.

Alignment with national priorities

46. This CSP outcome is aligned with national efforts to promote prosperity and resilience for all citizens through inclusive and green socioeconomic development as well as preventive and promotive social protection measures as described in the NDP. The CSP outcome will also contribute to the achievement of UNSDCF outcome 2 through SDG indicators 1.2.1, 1.2.2, 2.1.1, 8.3.1.1, 8.3.1.2 and 1.a.2 as measured by the National Statistical Committee (NSC).

Expected outputs

47. This CSP outcome will be achieved through outputs 1.1–1.4:
- Output 1.1: Food-insecure and vulnerable individuals with no productive capacity benefit from unconditional transfers and nutrition knowledge that meet their basic food and nutrition needs and enhance their agency.
 - Output 1.2: Food-insecure and vulnerable individuals with productive capacity benefit from conditional transfers that meet their food and nutrition needs.
 - Output 1.3: Food-insecure and vulnerable households in targeted areas benefit from rehabilitated or newly constructed productive community assets, knowledge and skills that help improve their productivity, human and financial capital, incomes and nutrition practices.
 - Output 1.4: Government institutions at the central and local levels benefit from strengthened innovative social protection approaches to decent employment and human capital development.

Key activities

Activity 1: Provide resource transfers, knowledge and technical assistance to the most vulnerable and the Government through more inclusive social protection systems and active labour market programmes

48. WFP will provide direct support to vulnerable women and men of all age groups who have limited or no productive capacities, such as people with disabilities. This support will enhance the socioeconomic agency of groups who otherwise would not have access to nutritious food; it will also help promote social cohesion between groups.
49. WFP will provide direct support to food-insecure and vulnerable households with productive capacity to meet their immediate food needs, including through the implementation of food assistance for assets (FFA) and food assistance for training (FFT) interventions, optimizing government-led active labour market programmes through improved targeting, asset selection and transfer value. The created assets and knowledge will improve livelihood skills, increase productivity and diversify employment opportunities, helping to reduce the use of corrosive coping mechanisms and promoting self-sufficiency. Community consultations will be used to identify the assets to be created or rehabilitated and the related skills development.
50. Women and men of different age groups will participate equally in determining the assets to be constructed. They will benefit equally from the enhanced livelihoods that result in access to and control of productive assets and from improved skills and practices that open up new income-generating opportunities.
51. Inclusive SBCC and awareness raising on healthy diets and gender-transformative practices will enhance awareness of nutrition and increase the sharing of cooking responsibilities. The strategies will be aimed at caregivers and will be selected based on assessments, with messages adapted to the needs of pregnant women and new mothers, other women, men and adolescent girls and boys.
52. WFP will provide the Ministry of Labour, Social Security and Migration with technical support designed to strengthen social protection systems, improve targeting methodologies to better reach the most vulnerable women and men of all age groups and support the digitalization of the social passport system, which is the government registry for people living below the poverty line. WFP will also support the Government's scale-up of new pilots designed to help households out of poverty, such as the social contract pilot.
53. WFP will also generate evidence on the impact of activities on food security and nutrition and on related long-term development outcomes to inform national resource allocation and policy development and facilitate robust needs analysis.

Partnerships

54. WFP will work closely with the Government from policy to implementation and in coordination with key social protection partners in employment generation, migration, women's empowerment and the green economy. Partners will include other United Nations entities, including the other Rome-based agencies; international financial institutions; civil society organizations; the SUN Network; academia; the Ministry of Labour, Social Security and Migration; the Ministry of Digital Development; the Ministry of Agriculture, Water Resources and Regional Development; the state agency on regional development; the state agency for vocational education; the NSC; private organizations; and non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

Assumptions

55. Community participation and co-financing will be critical to ensuring that selected assets are appropriate and can be sustained. It is also assumed that the Government will continue to implement active labour market programmes pending reform of the social protection system and the social fund and will expand coverage to reach excluded populations while expanding poverty graduation programmes.

Transition/handover strategy

56. Alignment of WFP programmes with existing government active labour market programmes will help to ensure that optimized public works and vocational education systems can be sustained within national social protection mechanisms. Activities will be government-led to ensure national ownership and strengthen the capacity of national actors, enabling the Government to prioritize and mobilize resources. WFP will continue to second staff to government ministries to ensure continuous in-house capacity strengthening.

Country strategic plan outcome 2: Vulnerable populations in crisis-affected areas in the Kyrgyz Republic can meet their food and nutrition needs, enabling their early recovery during and in the aftermath of crises

57. Through this contingency measure, WFP will support the Government and humanitarian partners in responding to a crisis that exceeds the Government's response capacity by providing emergency assistance (food or cash-based transfers (CBTs)) to women and men of all ages.

WFP strategic outcome

58. This CSP outcome is aligned with WFP strategic outcome 1 (People are better able to meet their urgent food and nutrition needs).

Focus area

59. The focus area of this CSP outcome is crisis response.

Alignment with national priorities

60. This CSP outcome is aligned with the objective of the interagency contingency plan (provide an accountable, predictable and coordinated emergency response to meet critical needs of all affected people). Its results contribute to UNSDCF outcome 1 through SDG indicators 1.2.2 and 1.a.2 as measured by the NSC.

Expected outputs

61. This CSP outcome will be achieved through output 2.1:
- Output 2.1: Targeted groups benefit from unconditional transfers that meet their food and nutrition needs.

Key activities**Activity 2: Provide emergency food assistance to shock-affected vulnerable populations**

62. WFP will provide unconditional assistance to crisis-affected populations upon the activation of the disaster response coordination unit and national disaster response mechanisms.

Partnerships

63. The Ministry of Emergency Situations will be WFP's main partner for responding to emergencies. WFP will also partner with national and local representatives of the Ministry of Labour, Social Security and Migration to coordinate the targeting, delivery and monitoring of assistance. Throughout the programme cycle, WFP will also work with other

United Nations actors, NGOs, affected populations and community-based organizations to implement people-centred, gender-responsive approaches.

Assumptions

64. The CSP assumes that the Government, equipped with response plans and an improved anti-crisis management structure, will only require the emergency support of the international community in the event of a major crisis and that WFP will not be the sole response actor and will only cover a portion of the needs.

Transition/handover strategy

65. WFP's crisis-response efforts are designed to augment the national response on an as-needed basis and will be gradually phased out as livelihood opportunities resume.

Country strategic plan outcome 3: By 2027, vulnerable communities in the Kyrgyz Republic exposed to the impacts of climate variability and change are better able to cope with shocks and benefit from more resilient food systems

66. WFP will assist vulnerable communities prone to disaster and climate change risks to improve their capacity to manage sustainable, shock-responsive and adaptable food systems. WFP will also institutionalize gender-sensitive climate change adaptation and disaster risk management systems and knowledge at the national and community levels by enhancing capacity to apply adaptive and resilient models while expanding infrastructure and assets for anticipatory action, resilience to shocks and emergency preparedness.

WFP strategic outcome

67. This CSP outcome contributes to WFP strategic outcome 3 (People have improved and sustainable livelihoods).

Focus area

68. The focus area of this CSP outcome is resilience building.

Alignment with national priorities

69. This CSP outcome is derived from UNSDCF outcome 3 and is aligned with national efforts to promote inclusive approaches to climate action, disaster risk management and environmental protection. It involves conserving natural resources and leveraging ecosystem benefits for sustainable human development as prioritized in the NDP and in commitments made in relation to the nutrition for growth summit and the 2021 United Nations food systems summit. It contributes to UNSDCF outcome 3 through SDG indicators 2.1.1, 8.3.1.2, 13.2.1, 1.5.3 and 15.1.2.1 as measured by the NSC.

Expected outputs

70. This CSP outcome will be achieved through outputs 3.1–3.3:
- Output 3.1: Targeted groups benefit from conditional transfers (including insurance) to meet their food and nutrition needs and enable them to be financially resilient when affected by stressors and shocks.
 - Output 3.2: Targeted groups and communities benefit from rehabilitated and newly constructed assets and improved knowledge that help them protect, improve and adapt their livelihoods to climate variability and enhance nutrition practices.
 - Output 3.3: Government institutions at the central and local levels benefit from improved early warning, disaster risk management and climate change adaptation approaches and systems that strengthen the national shock-responsive social protection system.

Key activities

Activity 3: Provide resource transfers, knowledge and technical assistance to the most vulnerable and the Government in order to enhance climate change adaptation and disaster risk management capacity at the central and local levels

71. WFP will provide conditional assistance (food or CBTs) through climate-smart FFA and FFT activities for vulnerable households, building climate-resilient infrastructure and assets and diversifying livelihood activities. Led by local governments and supported by WFP, the activities will be aimed at strengthening community capacity to use improved agriculture practices, post-harvest loss reduction measures, sustainable natural resource management and climate risk information. This will facilitate more sustainable production, better and more equitable access to markets and integration with value chains, enhancing communities' resilience to shocks. The activities will be designed together with communities to ensure that benefits from the assets and knowledge respond to their needs and are equitable and accessible across gender and age groups.
72. WFP will facilitate the elaboration and launch of risk transfer mechanisms through micro-insurance schemes in which premiums are subsidized based on conditional asset creation and training activities for vulnerable households.
73. A gender-transformative SBCC approach will be applied. The FFA and FFT participants (women and men) will be provided with positive nutrition messaging to improve their understanding of the importance of consuming nutrient-rich food and encourage the gender-equal distribution of labour within the household. Furthermore, positive practices related to climate adaptation will be promoted utilizing diverse communication materials and participatory approaches. Participants will also benefit from participatory community sensitization and planning processes that will leave them better prepared to manage the impacts of climate change.
74. WFP will contribute to supporting the Government in its efforts to strengthen the legislative framework. To this end, technical assistance will be provided for local climate and disaster risk preparedness, mitigation and response strategies in line with national strategies and the Sendai Framework. WFP activities will seek to enhance community risk profiling and planning, climate insurance, urban greening and the preservation of mountain and forest ecosystems. The methods developed will be documented and form part of a toolkit for local governments.
75. WFP will strengthen government capacity to collect and disseminate high-quality and timely disaster risk reduction (DRR) and climate data by installing automated weather stations, training staff in their use and improving national and subnational mechanisms for DRR mitigation and coordinated response; this work will also support the integration of core climate information into early warning systems and updated response mechanisms.
76. WFP will support the development and integration of national DRR and CCA systems, such as the Platform for Real-time Impact and Situation Monitoring (a climate risk monitoring system) and the Consolidated Livelihood Exercise for Analysing Resilience approach, as well as the generation of evidence on the impact of climate change and mountain ecosystem degradation.
77. WFP will expand supply chain capacity strengthening activities for emergency preparedness and response and food systems improvement and provide expertise for improved warehousing capacity, quality assurance mechanisms, customs process optimization and other digital solutions aimed at supporting the green economic recovery and strengthening crisis response coordination mechanisms.

78. WFP will support public and private stakeholders in developing and implementing an insurance scheme to protect vulnerable households against climate risks. WFP will support the Ministry of Agriculture, Water Resources and Regional Development and other public stakeholders in creating an enabling environment and regulatory framework that promotes the development of national agricultural and climate risk insurance markets.

Partnerships

79. The Ministry of Emergency Situations and the Ministry of Natural Resources, Ecology and Technical Supervision will be WFP's main partners under this outcome, in addition to the Ministry of Agriculture, Water Resources and Regional Development, the Ministry of Labour, Social Security and Migration and the NSC. Other key partners include local governments, rural communities, the Green Climate Fund and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, the United Nations Development Programme, the other Rome-based agencies, international financial institutions, universities, the German Agency for International Cooperation, the Japan International Cooperation Agency, the Korea International Cooperation Agency and other NGOs and civil society organizations.

Assumptions

80. It is assumed that households have the resources to apply better practices and skills to protect themselves against shocks and to make effective use of subsidized private extension or insurance services. WFP also counts on the Government's commitment to strengthen public-private partnerships, including through financial instruments, and the regulatory environment that protects people and ecosystems.

Transition/handover strategy

81. WFP will support the elaboration of more effective and efficient local development policies by integrating the planning and implementation of gender-sensitive CCA into policies and budgets at the district and community levels to institutionalize CCA planning. WFP will also explore the introduction of fee-based climate services aimed at enhancing resilience and increasing the possibilities for wider application of adaptive practices and to help the Government to ensure financial sustainability.

Country strategic plan outcome 4: By 2027, schools in the Kyrgyz Republic have strengthened capacity to provide healthy meals to children and create sustainable school feeding solutions for improved health, nutrition, education and food security outcomes

82. WFP will continue to support the Government in optimizing its NSMP so that pre-school and schoolchildren age 3–12 can receive hot, diverse and nutritious meals. The goal is to strengthen incrementally national capacity to operate a sustainable NSMP that can be expanded to preschool and reach adolescents and other vulnerable groups.

WFP strategic outcome

83. This CSP outcome is aligned with WFP strategic outcome 4 (National programmes and systems are strengthened).

Focus area

84. The focus area of this CSP outcome is root causes.

Alignment with national priorities

85. This CSP outcome is aligned with national efforts to respond to people's needs by ensuring equitable access to quality social services through effective policies and appropriate financing mechanisms with the participation of all parties, as foreseen in the NDP. School meals activities are aligned with the education development strategy for 2020–2040. The

results of this outcome contribute to UNSDCF outcome 1 through SDG indicators 1.2.2 and 1.a.2 as measured by the NSC.

Expected outputs

86. This CSP outcome will be achieved through outputs 4.1–4.4:
- Output 4.1: The Government has increased technical capacity to implement the optimized national school meals programme to achieve nutrition, education and food security outcomes.
 - Output 4.2: Government institutions at the central and local levels have diversified and increased financial capacity for sustainable optimized national school meals programme management.
 - Output 4.3: School-age girls and boys and their families benefit from improved knowledge and skills of school staff and caregivers in sanitation, hygiene and nutrition that improve their micronutrient intake within a healthy and safe environment.
 - Output 4.4: School-age girls and boys receive a hot, diverse, nutritious and safe meal every day they attend school to meet their basic food and nutrition needs and take full advantage of learning opportunities.

Key activities

Activity 4: Provide technical assistance to national partners to institutionalize national school-based programmes and improve their sustainability

87. Building on successful implementation in previous years, the CSP focuses on the institutionalization and sustainability of an optimized national school feeding model through policy support, advocacy, direct technical assistance and horizontal mutual exchanges and learning from other countries in the region, leveraging the WFP-supported school nutrition unit within the Ministry of Education and Science and the National Republican Competency Centre.
88. WFP will support a capacity assessment that will inform systematic institutional capacity strengthening as part of the long-term transition plan. The assessment will identify how institutional capacity of NSMP entities should be strengthened horizontally and vertically in a sustainable manner, including through robust monitoring and evaluation systems. WFP will provide technical support to district and school staff on the efficient implementation of the NSMP.
89. While schools receive funding for hot meals from the state budget and other sources (parents and partners), WFP's assistance will optimize existing processes, including procurement, canteen infrastructure and menus, with minimal direct food transfers. WFP will roll out hot meals in an additional 300 schools to support government expansion of the enhanced NSMP and will explore the best models for schools in urban areas and with varying levels of basic infrastructure. Technical support will be provided to schools that have the potential to continue replicating optimized feeding models independently from WFP transfers. Technical assistance to schools that require additional financing and partnerships will be prioritized.
90. A gender-transformative SBCC approach will be applied to schools and community members to enhance awareness of healthy diets and their importance for school-age children. WFP will advocate adequate remuneration for cooks and that women participate on an equal footing as decision makers on parents' committees and school meals management committees.

91. The home-grown school feeding model will be piloted to improve the nutritional value of rations with locally produced foods and establish entry points for value chain development, thereby supporting smallholder farmers in prioritized areas. WFP will work with the Ministry of Agriculture, Water Resources and Regional Development and partners to improve centralized and decentralized procurement systems for school meals, including through advocacy for changes in legal frameworks, and, if feasible, will support farm-to-school linkages with logistics hubs and warehouses. WFP and partners will advocate that the Government scale up feeding models to include secondary schools and improve preschool feeding models.
92. WFP will support the financial sustainability of the NSMP by promoting income-generating activities for schools and the parents of students that will improve their ability to contribute financially to the programme.
93. As a basis for advocating greater resources for the NSMP and making it financially sustainable, WFP will conduct a costing analysis, develop a resource mobilization strategy for the Government and advocate that the NSMP budget be indexed to the inflation rate.

Partnerships

94. WFP will work with partners to strengthen institutional coordination and coherence in support of the NSMP, including through inter-ministerial working committees at the central and decentralized levels, across government structures and with local authorities, provincial and district administrations, key development partners and social protection actors. WFP will coordinate with other school meals actors, including Mercy Corps, to achieve a multiplier effect. Moreover, WFP will collaborate with other United Nations entities and other partners such as FAO, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the World Health Organization, the Aga Khan Foundation and the Russian Social and Industrial Foodservice Institute.

Assumptions

95. This outcome relies on continued government commitment to developing the requisite legal mechanisms and implementation capacity, including the allocation of sufficient financial resources. Continued community interest and support through parental contributions and farmers' supplies of products to schools will also be necessary.

Transition/handover strategy

96. With a view to a long-term and sustainable transition to an enhanced NSMP, a detailed road map and action plan that goes beyond 2027 will be developed, including budgetary requirements informed by evidence generated by WFP assessments.

4. Implementation arrangements

4.1 Beneficiary analysis

97. WFP has used a mixed approach to beneficiary analysis for the CSP, combining geographic- and vulnerability-based targeting to minimize inclusion and exclusion errors. For each outcome, an "augmented" version of the integrated context analysis was produced and tailored to the needs that each outcome addresses. Poverty, undernourishment, recurrence of natural disasters, remittance dependency, per capita agricultural production and unemployment were analysed. These indicators were combined and adapted for each outcome and different weights for each indicator were applied within each outcome. This process identified the districts with the highest concentration of vulnerable people, supporting the allocation of government resources to complement the approach of the integrated context analysis, in addition to which community-level vulnerability assessments will be conducted to identify specific vulnerabilities. Gender, age and disability will be duly considered, and vulnerability criteria will be developed with and validated by community

members. The targeting approach will be updated based on needs and as new data become available. A national integrated micronutrient and anthropometric survey will provide data on obesity and micronutrient deficiencies.

98. Community planning processes and regular process monitoring will ensure that direct beneficiaries under CSP outcomes 1 and 3 do not overlap. The NSMP implemented by the Government has universal coverage and is provided to all primary school-age children regardless of vulnerability status. Considering that more than 70 percent of schools are already using improved feeding models and factoring in the plans of WFP and Mercy Corps, most households with primary-school-age children will benefit from the Government's optimized programme.

Country strategic plan outcome	Output	Activity	Beneficiary group	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	Total
1	1.1, 1.2	1	Girls	22 500	22 500	22 500	22 500	22 500	95 634
			Boys	23 750	23 750	23 750	23 750	23 750	100 947
			Women	40 000	40 000	40 000	40 000	40 000	170 016
			Men	38 750	38 750	38 750	38 750	38 750	164 703
			Total	125 000	125 000	125 000	125 000	125 000	531 300
2	2.1	2	Girls	18 000					18 000
			Boys	19 000					19 000
			Women	32 000					32 000
			Men	31 000					31 000
			Total	100 000					100 000
3	3.1	3	Girls	35 280	35 280	10 080	9 090	8 100	83 160
			Boys	37 240	37 240	10 640	9 595	8 550	87 780
			Women	62 720	62 720	17 920	16 160	14 400	147 840
			Men	60 760	60 760	17 360	15 655	13 950	143 220
			Total	196 000	196 000	56 000	50 500	45 000	462 000
4	4.4	4	Girls	27 000	27 000	27 000	27 000	27 000	168 750
			Boys	27 000	27 000	27 000	27 000	27 000	168 750
			Women						
			Men						
			Total	54 000	54 000	54 000	54 000	54 000	337 500
Total (adjusted)			Girls	102 780	84 780	59 580	58 590	57 600	365 544
			Boys	106 990	87 990	61 390	60 345	59 300	376 477
			Women	134 720	102 720	57 920	56 160	54 400	349 856
			Men	130 510	99 510	56 110	54 405	52 700	338 923
			Total	475 000	375 000	235 000	229 500	224 000	1 430 800

4.2 Transfers

99. The value of FFA entitlements under CSP outcomes 1 and 3 will reflect government provisions for public works and labour wages. Rations⁴⁰ will enable households to cover the cost of a nutrient-adequate diet, as identified through the Fill the Nutrient Gap analysis.
100. The choice of transfer modality will depend on the results of the CBT feasibility assessment.
101. Under CSP outcome 2 it is foreseen that in the event of a large-scale emergency WFP will distribute national emergency food baskets for the first five days, which require no cooking facilities, and then shift for 90 days to distribution of the ration agreed through the disaster response coordination unit.
102. Under CSP outcome 3 WFP plans to provide access to insurance policies for eligible WFP beneficiaries. The premium and insured amounts will be calculated based on livelihood activities, production costs and estimated needs after a climate shock materializes. When payouts are triggered, beneficiaries will receive cash transfers.
103. Under CSP outcome 4, WFP food transfers will be minimal, at 60g per child per day. Combined with technical assistance and training, this will meet micronutrient requirements and facilitate safe and diverse meals.

4.3 Country office capacity and profile

104. WFP operates in the Kyrgyz Republic from its country office in Bishkek and suboffice in Osh, in close coordination with the WFP country office in Tajikistan especially for issues related to the climate and disaster risk management.
105. WFP staff have the skills and expertise needed to deliver across the humanitarian-development-peace nexus and to build on existing programmes; CBT and social protection staffing capabilities have been further strengthened in 2022. For areas where WFP may not have in-house expertise, such as the development of climate service tools, gender and government fiscal space budgeting and analysis, WFP will seek support from external experts including by borrowing expertise from partners. The staffing structure will be reviewed regularly to ensure continued alignment with programmatic needs and the resource outlook.

4.4 Partnerships

106. The CSP is an integral part of the 2023–2027 UNSDCF and its implementation will be led by the Government at the central and decentralized levels. WFP will continue to build on its partnerships with the Ministry of Labour, Social Security and Migration; the Ministry of Education and Science; the Ministry of Agriculture, Water Resources and Regional Development; the Ministry of Emergency Situations; the Ministry of Natural Resources, Ecology and Technical Supervision; the Ministry of Digital Development; the Ministry of Economy and Commerce; and the NSC. These partnerships are maintained at the central, district and sub-district levels; community consultations and participatory planning processes ensure that WFP's people-centred approach inspires national social and disaster risk management mechanisms.
107. WFP plays an active role in the Development Partners Coordination Council, which is led by the Asian Development Bank, the World Bank and the NGO Helvetas and coordinates work on sectoral issues through thematic working groups.

⁴⁰ The value of the ration is within the threshold of 80 percent of the wage for unskilled labour. The contents of the food baskets are culturally acceptable and include fortified wheat flour and vegetable oil.

108. Under the leadership of the Ministry of Agriculture, Water Resources and Regional Development, WFP co-facilitates the SUN platform with UNICEF to promote healthy nutrition, food safety, food processing and fortification. Private sector partnerships forged through the platform aim to leverage innovative and sustainable food systems solutions, vocational training and other active labour market initiatives, as well as new financial products supporting smallholder farmers.
109. Through the UNSDCF, WFP will ensure close alignment with FAO, the International Fund for Agricultural Development and the United Nations country team. In line with United Nations development system reform, WFP will explore opportunities for joint programming with other United Nations entities to address issues related to social protection, food systems, resilience building, nutrition, logistics and CCA.
110. Gender programming partnerships will be built with the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and the Department of Gender Policy and Coordination for Protection from Domestic Violence in the Ministry of Labour, Social Security and Migration. UNSDCF scorecards will be used to measure and coordinate progress in disability inclusion, women's economic empowerment and youth engagement. Partnerships with civil society organizations will be diversified to include gender and disability issues.
111. WFP will generate evidence through partnerships with local academic institutions, local NGOs and public and private extension services and will disseminate knowledge to communities. Engagement with the private sector will be critical for ensuring access to insurance and financial services for vulnerable households.

5. Performance management and evaluation

5.1 Monitoring and evaluation arrangements

112. Monitoring and evaluation arrangements will be guided by WFP's corporate results framework for 2022–2025, the UNSDCF monitoring and evaluation plan and national SDG targets. CSP results will be measured through an integrated and inclusive monitoring approach that covers gender, accountability to affected populations, protection, nutrition integration and disability inclusion and will contribute to UNSDCF progress. Monitoring results will be reported through UN INFO and WFP corporate systems and will demonstrate contributions to SDG achievement.
113. WFP's national capacity development strategy foresees strengthening the Government's monitoring and evaluation systems. With the NSC, WFP will plan joint activities on assessments, monitoring, reviews and methodological developments under the memorandum of understanding between the United Nations country team and the NSC.
114. The baseline and target values for the selected indicators will be established in 2022 through an integrated food security outcome monitoring system and donor-specific baseline assessments and consultations with partners and affected populations. All household-level indicators will be disaggregated by sex. A robust outcome measurement system will be developed to track long-term development outcomes, including the progress of institutional capacity strengthening activities. WFP and the Government will jointly monitor the sustainability and benefits of tools and systems that are handed over to the Government.
115. WFP will put in place community feedback mechanisms to ensure accountability to affected populations. Taking a "do no harm" approach, community engagement action plans will inform inclusive tools for programming and screening for environmental and social risks.

116. Guided by WFP policies and strategies and UNSDCF plans, a series of evaluations and reviews will inform WFP, its partners and stakeholders, including affected populations, about the results and transitions needed to achieve the NDP and SDG targets. The UNSDCF for 2023–2027 will be evaluated in its penultimate year and will inform the United Nations country team of achievements and lessons learned. In 2026, an independent evaluation of the CSP will assess overall performance and inform future strategic orientation. A mid-term review of the CSP planned for 2025 will be used to adapt programming during CSP implementation, and its results will feed into the CSP evaluation. WFP will conduct a decentralized formative evaluation of the CCA programme supported by the Green Climate Fund in 2023–2024 and will undertake analyses and research for the safety net and active labour market programmes.

5.2 Risk management

Strategic risks

117. While the Kyrgyz Republic has been largely peaceful in recent times, border disputes and failing governments could lead to instability. This may increase needs and lead to a diversion of resources away from capacity strengthening and institution building. WFP will aim to diversify the donor base and strengthen internal procedures, attracting new donors and moving towards more technical assistance as the country undergoes substantive changes in national legislation and government structures.
118. Capacity strengthening activities, particularly under the NSMP, require significant predictable funding. As the Russian Federation has been the largest donor for WFP in the Kyrgyz Republic, operations and funding are vulnerable considering the unpredictability of the geopolitical situation globally and regionally. WFP has developed a resource mobilization strategy that highlights the need to raise funds for the Government as well as the CSP to ensure that national programmes benefit from predictable multi-year resources.
119. Violent border skirmishes in the south of the country remain a serious threat that could indirectly affect WFP's operations. WFP will continue to enforce and implement United Nations standard operating procedures and risk management frameworks in place to mitigate potential health, safety and security risks, including specific security risk management measures for field missions in the border area.

Operational risks

120. The limited capacity of the Government, cooperating partners and financial services providers could impair the quality of programme delivery, particularly for CBTs and new digital solutions. WFP will diversify its partner base and conduct assessment and capacity building activities, including for local NGOs.
121. Given the Kyrgyz Republic's dependence on imports, particularly from the Russian Federation and other Eurasian Economic Union countries, supply chain and market disruptions are a risk. In the short term WFP will mitigate this risk via market monitoring, pre-positioning and the leveraging of regional long-term agreements in place. In the medium to long term, risks will be reduced through capacity strengthening activities for national actors, including the national strategic grain reserves (funding permitting).

Fiduciary risks

122. Potential risks related to the misappropriation of resources by external parties will be mitigated by robust internal controls that promote transparency and accountability, including through standard operating procedures, activity monitoring, rotation of field monitoring staff, third-party monitoring, oversight visits, a beneficiary hotline and the training of staff and partners.

Financial risks

123. Continued political and economic instability, large currency fluctuations and rising food prices could trigger public dissatisfaction, undermine social cohesion and hamper efforts to govern, which may threaten programme implementation. The volatility of food and fuel prices, coupled with exchange rate fluctuations, could affect commodity prices. WFP will monitor the situation closely and adjust the country portfolio budget and support as required.

5.3 Social and environmental safeguards

124. In line with WFP's social and environmental safeguards framework, all WFP activities will be screened with a view to preventing, avoiding and mitigating any potentially negative direct or indirect impacts on the environment, gender equality and peace.

125. WFP will implement an environmental management system to identify, manage and reduce the environmental impact of its support operations, addressing energy efficiency and decarbonization, waste management, sustainable procurement and staff training and awareness. WFP will also contribute to United Nations initiatives under the United Nations business operations strategy for the Kyrgyz Republic.

126. WFP will promote a human-rights-based approach and conduct peace and conflict-sensitivity analyses for asset creation projects in accordance with the "do no harm" principle. Accountability and protection mechanisms are incorporated into WFP support for nutrition-sensitive social protection, including through its advocacy of financial inclusion and beneficiary data protection for government-administered programmes. WFP will screen and train cooperating partners, continue its gender-transformative work and support advocacy on the prevention of gender-based violence and sexual exploitation and abuse.

6. Resources for results

6.1 Country portfolio budget

127. As indicated in table 2, the largest portion of the country portfolio budget will be allocated to CSP outcome 1, which includes a new beneficiary group (individuals with no productive capacity) in order to "leave no one behind". CSP outcome 3 will include the continuation of Green Climate Fund-supported activities and benefit from growing interest in food systems solutions and DRR and CCA thematic funding. The cost of CSP outcome 4 reflects the handover of the NSMP to the Government and includes support for innovative financing. In line with corporate commitments, 28 percent of the total budget will be allocated to gender-sensitive programming.

Country strategic plan outcome	Activity	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	Total
1	1	6 841 483	7 656 036	7 846 935	8 783 548	9 605 172	40 733 174
2	2	5 846 110	-	-	-	-	5 846 110
3	3	8 418 632	8 513 062	4 616 547	4 754 094	4 315 156	30 617 491
4	4	2 553 356	2 670 097	2 744 172	2 864 465	2 910 251	13 742 341
Total		23 659 581	18 839 196	15 207 654	16 402 107	16 830 578	90 939 116

6.2 Resourcing outlook and strategy

128. While the 2018–2022 CSP has been funded at 64 percent, a single donor (the Russian Federation) provided over 73 percent of all contributions to WFP. In recent years WFP has succeeded in finding additional donors to diversify its funding base, particularly for climate change and resilience activities. These fundraising efforts will intensify for the 2023–2027 CSP.
129. WFP will continue to explore opportunities to collaborate with non-traditional donors, including international financial institutions and private sector partners, while deepening relations with existing donors. As mentioned in section 5.2, unearmarked multi-year funding will be crucial for the successful implementation of capacity strengthening and systems building activities.
130. Among the CSP activities, transfers to beneficiaries will be prioritized, followed by capacity strengthening support at the institutional level. The screening of the partnership landscape will be an integral part of the prioritization plan. WFP will coordinate with other actors when prioritizing its activities in order to reduce inclusion, exclusion and duplication errors. Prioritization will also be guided by vulnerability assessments.
131. Fundraising for government programmes will be a key priority for WFP for this CSP to ensure that there is national capacity to finance and budget for school meals, DRR, climate adaptation and social protection.

ANNEX I**LOGICAL FRAMEWORK FOR KYRGYZ REPUBLIC COUNTRY STRATEGIC PLAN (JANUARY 2023–DECEMBER 2027)****SDG 2: Zero hunger****SDG target 2.1: Access to food**

Country strategic plan outcome 1: By 2027, food-insecure and vulnerable populations in the Kyrgyz Republic have enhanced access to diversified employment, income opportunities and human capital development

Outcome category: People have better nutrition, health and education outcomes

Nutrition-sensitive

Focus area: resilience building

Assumptions

Community participation and co-financing will be critical to ensure selected assets are appropriate and can be sustained. It is also assumed that the Government will continue to implement active labour market programmes, pending reforms of the social protection system and the social fund, and will expand coverage to reach excluded populations while expanding poverty graduation programmes

Outcome indicators

Consumption-based coping strategy index, reduced CSI

Economic capacity to meet essential needs

Food consumption score

Food consumption score – nutrition

Livelihood coping strategies for essential needs

Livelihood coping strategies for food security

Number of national policies, strategies, programmes and other system components contributing to zero hunger and other SDGs enhanced with WFP capacity strengthening support

Number of people covered (WFP indirect beneficiaries) by national social protection systems or programmes to which WFP provided technical support

Percentage of the population in targeted communities reporting benefits from an enhanced livelihood asset base

Proportion of households that cannot afford the lowest-cost nutritious diet

Resources mobilized (USD value) for national systems contributing to Zero Hunger and other SDGs with WFP capacity strengthening support

Activities and outputs

1. Provide resource transfers, knowledge and technical assistance to the most vulnerable and the Government through more inclusive social protection systems and active labour market programmes (HIS-1.7: Household and individual skill and livelihood creation)

1.3 Food-insecure and vulnerable households in targeted areas benefit from rehabilitated or newly constructed productive community assets, knowledge and skills that help improve their productivity, human and financial capital, incomes and nutrition practices (Output category D: Assets created. Output standard 2.1: Food-insecure populations have increased and sustained access to nutritious food, cash-based assistance, new or improved skills and services to meet their food and nutrition needs)

1.1 Food-insecure and vulnerable individuals with no productive capacity benefit from unconditional transfers and nutrition knowledge that meet their basic food and nutrition needs and enhance their agency (Output category A: Resources transferred. Output standard 2.1: Food-insecure populations have increased and sustained access to nutritious food, cash-based assistance, new or improved skills and services to meet their food and nutrition needs)

1.1 Food-insecure and vulnerable individuals with no productive capacity benefit from unconditional transfers and nutrition knowledge that meet their basic food and nutrition needs and enhance their agency (Output category B: Nutritious food provided. Output standard 2.1: Food-insecure populations have increased and sustained access to nutritious food, cash-based assistance, new or improved skills and services to meet their food and nutrition needs)

1.2 Food-insecure and vulnerable individuals with productive capacity benefit from conditional transfers that meet their food and nutrition needs (Output category B: Nutritious food provided. Output standard 2.1: Food-insecure populations have increased and sustained access to nutritious food, cash-based assistance, new or improved skills and services to meet their food and nutrition needs)

1.4 Government institutions at the central and local levels benefit from strengthened innovative social protection approaches to decent employment and human capital development (Output category C: Capacity development and technical support provided. Output standard 2.1: Food-insecure populations have increased and sustained access to nutritious food, cash-based assistance, new or improved skills and services to meet their food and nutrition needs)

Country strategic plan outcome 2: Vulnerable populations in crisis-affected areas in the Kyrgyz Republic can meet their food and nutrition needs, enabling their early recovery during and in the aftermath of crises

Outcome category: People are better able to meet their urgent food and nutrition needs

Focus area: crisis response

Assumptions

The Government, equipped with response plans and an improved anti-crisis management structure, will only require the emergency support of the international community in an event of a major crisis and that WFP will not be the sole response actor and will only cover a portion of the needs.

Outcome indicators

Consumption-based coping strategy index. Reduced CSI

Food consumption score

Livelihood coping strategies for essential needs

Livelihood coping strategies for food security

Activities and outputs

2. Provide emergency food assistance to shock-affected vulnerable populations (URT-1.2: Unconditional resource transfer)

2.1 Targeted groups benefit from unconditional transfers that meet their food and nutrition needs (Output category A: Resources transferred. Output standard 1.1: Food insecure and crisis-affected populations have access to nutritious food and cash-based assistance, restored assets and services to meet their urgent needs)

2.1 Targeted groups benefit from unconditional transfers that meet their food and nutrition needs (Output category B: Nutritious food provided. Output standard 1.1: Food insecure and crisis-affected populations have access to nutritious food and cash-based assistance, restored assets and services to meet their urgent needs)

SDG target 2.4: Sustainable food system

Country strategic plan outcome 3: By 2027, vulnerable communities in the Kyrgyz Republic exposed to the impacts of climate variability and change are better able to cope with shocks and benefit from more resilient food systems

Outcome category: People have improved and sustainable livelihoods

Nutrition-sensitive

Focus area: resilience building

Assumptions

Households have the resources to apply better practices and skills to protect against shocks and leverage subsidized private extension or insurance services. WFP also counts on the Government's commitment to strengthen public-private partnerships, including financial instruments and the regulatory environment that protects people and ecosystems

Outcome indicators

Climate adaptation benefit score

Climate resilience capacity score

Climate services score

Consumption-based coping strategy index, reduced CSI

Food consumption score

Food consumption score – nutrition

Investment capacity index

Livelihood coping strategies for essential needs

Livelihood coping strategies for food security

Number of national policies, strategies, programmes and other system components contributing to Zero Hunger and other SDGs enhanced with WFP capacity strengthening support

Number of people covered (WFP indirect beneficiaries) by national social protection systems or programmes to which WFP provided technical support

Percentage of the population in targeted communities reporting benefits from an enhanced livelihood asset base

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

Proportion of the population in targeted communities reporting environmental benefits

Resources mobilized (USD value) for national systems contributing to zero hunger and other SDGs with WFP capacity strengthening support

Activities and outputs

3. Provide resource transfers, knowledge and technical assistance to the most vulnerable and the Government in order to enhance climate change adaptation and disaster risk management capacity at the central and local levels (CAR-1.9: Actions to protect against climate shocks)

3.3 Government institutions at the central and local levels benefit from improved early warning, disaster risk management and climate change adaptation approaches and systems that strengthen the national shock-responsive social protection system (Output category C: Capacity development and technical support provided. Output standard 3.2: People and communities have increased skills, capacities and access to financial, energy and climate services for climate-adapted and sustainable livelihoods.)

3.2 Targeted groups and communities benefit from rehabilitated and newly constructed assets and improved knowledge that help them protect, improve and adapt their livelihoods to climate variability and enhance nutrition practices (Output category D: Assets created. Output standard 3.2: People and communities have increased skills, capacities and access to financial, energy and climate services for climate-adapted and sustainable livelihoods.)

3.2 Targeted groups and communities benefit from rehabilitated and newly constructed assets and improved knowledge that help them protect, improve and adapt their livelihoods to climate variability and enhance nutrition practices (Output category G: Skills, capacities and services for climate adapted livelihoods. Output standard 3.2: People and communities have increased skills, capacities and access to financial, energy and climate services for climate-adapted and sustainable livelihoods.)

3.1 Targeted groups benefit from conditional transfers (including insurance) to meet their food and nutrition needs and enable them to be financially resilient when affected by stressors and shocks (Output category A: Resources transferred. Output standard 3.1: People and communities have access to productive assets and mechanisms to better cope with shocks and stressors)

3.1 Targeted groups benefit from conditional transfers (including insurance) to meet their food and nutrition needs and enable them to be financially resilient when affected by stressors and shocks (Output category B: Nutritious food provided. Output standard 3.1: People and communities have access to productive assets and mechanisms to better cope with shocks and stressors)

SDG 17: Partnerships for the goals**SDG target 17.9: Capacity building**

Country strategic plan outcome 4: By 2027, schools in the Kyrgyz Republic have strengthened capacity to provide healthy meals to children and create sustainable school feeding solutions for improved health, nutrition, education and food security outcomes

Outcome category: National programmes and systems are strengthened

Nutrition-sensitive

Focus area: root causes

Assumptions

This outcome relies on continued government commitment to develop the legal mechanisms and capacitate its staff on central and local levels to effectively implement the enhanced NSMP, including allocating sufficient financial resources. Continued community interest and support of the programme, through parental contributions and farmers' interest to supply products to schools, will also be necessary

Outcome indicators

Number of complementary school health and nutrition interventions delivered alongside school feeding delivered by WFP

Number of national policies, strategies, programmes and other system components relating to school health and nutrition/including school feeding enhanced/developed with WFP capacity strengthening support and/or advocacy

Resources mobilized (USD value) for national systems contributing to zero hunger and other SDGs with WFP capacity strengthening support

Systems Approach for Better Education Results (SABER) school feeding index

Transition strategy for school health and nutrition/including school feeding developed with WFP support

Activities and outputs

4. Provide technical assistance to national partners to institutionalize national school based programmes and improve their sustainability (SMP-1.5: School based programmes)

4.2 Government institutions at central and local levels have diversified and increased financial capacity for sustainable optimized national school meals programme management (Output category C: Capacity development and technical support provided. Output standard 4.1: National actors have increased capacity and knowledge to enhance policies, strategies, processes and programmes contributing to achieve zero hunger and other SDGs)

4.3 School-age girls and boys and their families benefit from improved knowledge and skills of school staff and caregivers in sanitation, hygiene and nutrition that improve their micronutrient intake within a healthy and safe environment (Output category C: Capacity development and technical support provided. Output standard 4.1: National actors have increased capacity and knowledge to enhance policies, strategies, processes and programmes contributing to achieve zero hunger and other SDGs)

4.4 School-age girls and boys receive a hot, diverse, nutritious and safe meal every day they attend school to meet their basic food and nutrition needs and take full advantage of learning opportunities (Output category A: Resources transferred. Output standard 4.1: National actors have increased capacity and knowledge to enhance policies, strategies, processes and programmes contributing to achieve zero hunger and other SDGs)

4.4 School-age girls and boys receive a hot, diverse, nutritious and safe meal every day they attend school to meet their basic food and nutrition needs and take full advantage of learning opportunities (Output category N: School feeding provided. Output standard 4.1: National actors have increased capacity and knowledge to enhance policies, strategies, processes and programmes contributing to achieve zero hunger and other SDGs)

4.1 The Government has increased technical capacity to implement the optimized national school meals programme to achieve nutrition, education and food security outcomes (Output category C: Capacity development and technical support provided. Output standard 4.1: National actors have increased capacity and knowledge to enhance policies, strategies, processes and programmes contributing to achieve zero hunger and other SDGs)

SDG 2: Zero hunger

CC.1. Protection

Cross-cutting indicators

CC.1.1: Percentage of beneficiaries reporting no safety concerns experienced as a result of their engagement in WFP programmes

CC.1.2: Percentage of beneficiaries who report they experienced no barriers to accessing food and nutrition assistance

CC.1.3: Percentage of beneficiaries who report being treated with respect as a result of their engagement in programmes

CC.1.4: Number of women, men, boys and girls with disabilities accessing food/cash-based transfers/commodity vouchers/capacity strengthening services

CC.1.5: Country office meets or exceeds UNDIS entity accountability framework standards concerning accessibility (QCPR)

CC.2. Accountability

Cross-cutting indicators

CC.2.1: Percentage of beneficiaries reporting they were provided with accessible information about WFP programmes, including PSEA

CC.2.2: Country office meets or exceeds United Nations Disability Inclusion Strategy (UNDIS) standards on consulting organizations of persons with disabilities (QCPR)

CC.2.3: Country office has a functioning community feedback mechanism

CC.2.4: Country office has an action plan on community engagement

CC.2.5: Number of children and adults who have access to a safe and accessible channel to report sexual exploitation and abuse by humanitarian, development, protection and/or other personnel who provide assistance to affected populations (IOM, OHCHR, UNDP)

CC.2.6: Percentage of WFP cooperating partners registered in the UN Partner Portal which have been assessed using the UN Implementing Partner PSEA Capacity Assessment

CC.3. Gender equality and women's empowerment

Cross-cutting indicators

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

CC.3.2: Percentage of food assistance decision making entity members who are women

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

CC.4. Environmental sustainability**Cross-cutting indicators**

CC.4.1: Proportion of field-level agreements (FLAs)/memorandums of understanding (MOUs)/construction contracts (CCs) for CSP activities screened for environmental and social risks

CC.4.2: Country office implements environmental management systems

CC.5. Nutrition integration**Cross-cutting indicators**

CC.5.1: Percentage of people supported by WFP operations and services who are able to meet their nutritional needs through an effective combination of fortified food, specialized nutritious products and actions to support diet diversification

CC.5.2: Percentage of WFP beneficiaries who benefit from a nutrition-sensitive programme component

ANNEX II

FOOD RATION (g/person/day) AND CASH-BASED TRANSFER VALUE (USD/person/day) BY COUNTRY STRATEGIC PLAN OUTCOME AND ACTIVITY										
	CSP outcome 1			CSP outcome 2		CSP outcome 3			CSP outcome 4	
	Activity 1			Activity 2		Activity 3			Activity 4	
Beneficiary type	Household		Individuals, institutions	Household		Household		Communities, institutions	Primary schoolchildren	Individuals, communities, institutions
Modality	Food	CBTs	CS	Food	CBTs	Food	CBTs	CS	Food	CS
Cereals	810			140		810			60	
Pulses				30						
Oil	81			20		81				
Salt				3						
Canned meat (stew)				240						
Canned corn				340						
Canned beans				250						
Bread				200						
Canned fruits				240						
Total kcal/day				Phase I (5 days) – Energy supplied: 1,800 kcal Phase II (90 days) – Energy supplied: 911 kcal						
% kcal from protein				Phase I 21% Phase II: 13%						

FOOD RATION (g/person/day) AND CASH-BASED TRANSFER VALUE (USD/person/day) BY COUNTRY STRATEGIC PLAN OUTCOME AND ACTIVITY										
	CSP outcome 1			CSP outcome 2		CSP outcome 3			CSP outcome 4	
	Activity 1			Activity 2		Activity 3			Activity 4	
Beneficiary type	Household		Individuals, institutions	Household		Household		Communities, institutions	Primary schoolchildren	Individuals, communities, institutions
Modality	Food	CBTs	CS	Food	CBTs	Food	CBTs	CS	Food	CS
Cash-based transfers (USD/person/day)		0.54			0.13		0.54 (non-GCF) and 1 (GCF*)			
Number of feeding days per year	74			90		74 (non-GCF) and 30 (GCF*)			180	

Abbreviations: CS = capacity strengthening; GCF = Green Climate Fund.

* Funds provided by GCF.

ANNEX III

TOTAL FOOD/CASH-BASED TRANSFER REQUIREMENTS AND VALUE		
Food type/cash-based transfer	Total (mt)	Total (USD)
Cereals	33 353	18 085 001
Pulses	430	956 568
Oil and fats	3 061	10 898 993
Mixed and blended foods	-	-
Other	254	1 912 680
Total (food)	37 097	31 853 242
Cash-based transfers		13 619 420
Total (food and cash-based transfer value)	37 097	45 472 662

ANNEX IV

INDICATIVE COST BREAKDOWN BY COUNTRY STRATEGIC PLAN OUTCOME (USD)					
	SDG target 2.1/WFP strategic outcome 2	SDG target 2.1/WFP strategic outcome 1	SDG target 2.4/WFP strategic outcome 3	SDG target 17.9/WFP strategic outcome 4	Total
	CSP outcome 1	CSP outcome 2	CSP outcome 3	CSP outcome 4	
Focus area	Resilience building	Crisis response	Resilience building	Root causes	
Transfers	30 140 970	4 403 987	22 663 246	8 611 804	65 820 007
Implementation	4 861 707	761 760	3 804 497	3 205 803	12 633 768
Adjusted direct support costs	3 244 435	323 558	2 281 075	1 085 999	6 935 067
Subtotal	38 247 112	5 489 306	28 748 818	12 903 606	85 388 841
Indirect support costs (6.5 percent)	2 486 062	356 805	1 868 673	838 734	5 550 275
Total	40 733 174	5 846 110	30 617 491	13 742 341	90 939 116

Acronyms

CBT	cash-based transfer
CCA	climate change adaptation
COVID-19	coronavirus disease 2019
CSP	country strategic plan
DRR	disaster risk reduction
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FFA	food assistance for assets
FFT	food assistance for training
GDP	gross domestic product
GNI	gross national income
NDP	national development plan
NGO	non-governmental organization
NSC	National Statistical Committee
NSMP	national school meals programme
SBCC	social and behaviour change communication
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SUN	Scaling Up Nutrition
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNSDCF	United Nations sustainable development cooperation framework