



Feed the Future Country Fact Sheet

Online Version: <https://www.feedthefuture.gov/country/tajikistan>

COUNTRY PROFILE



Tajikistan

In Tajikistan, Feed the Future is targeting investments in specific regions for maximum impact. These statistics reflect the realities of Tajikistan and the results of Feed the Future's work there.

POPULATION	POVERTY	STUNTING	RURAL	GDP
1.5 Million Number of people living in Feed the Future target regions	8.8 Percent Percentage of people living in poverty in Feed the Future target regions	30.7 Percent Percentage of children suffering from stunting in Feed the Future target regions	73 Percent Percentage of population living in rural Tajikistan (World Bank, 2014)	6.7 Percent Annual GDP growth (World Bank, 2014)
FARMERS	SALES	NUTRITION	LAND	INVESTMENT
6.5 Thousand Producers using new technology and skills with Feed the Future's help in FY14	\$765 Thousand New income earned by Feed the Future farmers in FY14 from agricultural product sales	66.4 Thousand Children under 5 reached with nutrition help in FY14 across Tajikistan	123 Thousand Hectares tended with improved technologies or management practices in FY14	\$1.4 Million New private investment leveraged by Feed the Future in FY14

Approach

Located in Central Asia, Tajikistan is a post-conflict, post-Soviet country with significant food security needs: 8.8 percent of the population lives on less than \$1.25 a day, and many women and children are undernourished.

Yet there is tremendous opportunity for improving agriculture and nutrition through the Tajik government's leadership and partnership with development partners, the private sector, and other stakeholders. Seventy-three percent of Tajikistan's population lives in rural areas and the majority is engaged in agriculture. Across the country, agriculture accounts for 75 percent of employment and over a quarter of gross domestic product (GDP).

However, only about seven percent of Tajikistan's land surface is arable due to its mountainous topography. Many farmers depend on irrigation, delivered through decades-old systems, in this landlocked, arid country. With few options at home, an estimated one million Tajik citizens migrate abroad to work and their remittances are among the highest in the world, representing approximately half of the country's GDP.

These challenges contribute to widespread undernutrition in Tajikistan. Diets are poorly balanced with little diversity as families lack nutritional awareness and access to fresh fruits and vegetables year-round. Limited access to safe drinking water and sanitation facilities compounds the effects of poor nutrition.

Feed the Future focuses its activities in the southwestern Khatlon Province of Tajikistan, a key region for agricultural production that also has some of the highest rates of undernutrition in the country and the largest number of people living below the poverty line. Coordinating with the active and diverse development partner community in Tajikistan, Feed the

Future is supporting the Government of Tajikistan to implement agricultural, land and water reforms to improve food security and nutrition.

Strategy

Goal: Reduce the prevalence of poverty in Feed the Future target regions by 20 percent.

Goal: Reduce the prevalence of stunting in children under 5 years old in Feed the Future target regions by 20 percent.

To achieve its goals, Feed the Future is making key investments to:

- Expand markets and strengthen horticulture and orchard value chains
- Increase productivity on smallholder farms
- Help implement successful agricultural reform in Khatlon Province, including land and water sector policies
- Support government reform of national agriculture and nutrition policies
- Assist household and small commercial farms to increase income and food production
- Develop the capacity of local institutions and community-based organizations
- Improve nutrition and health

Feed the Future is focusing its efforts in targeted regions and value chains to maximize impact.

Value Chains

- Fruits
- Vegetables
- Dairy

Target Regions

12 districts in the Khatlon Province

- Yovon, Jomi, Khuroson, Sarband, Bokhtar, Vakhsh, Rumi, Qumsangir, Jilikul, Qubodiyon, Shahrtuz, and Nosiri Khusrav

Program Highlights

Value Chain Approach. Feed the Future is helping develop the fruit and vegetable value chains in Tajikistan, which have the greatest potential for boosting the incomes of rural households and enabling them to produce and afford more adequate, nutritious food. Feed the Future is also helping diversify markets and reduce risk to provide rural populations with access to the resources they need to create a more productive and profitable agriculture sector.

Policy Reform. Effective agrarian reform at the local and national levels is a critical element of Feed the Future's work in Tajikistan and a priority of the Government of Tajikistan. Agrarian reforms, such as changes to land and water relations and rights, tax and regulatory reform, business climate reform, and improved agricultural finance systems, are designed to help Tajikistan attract future investment and make agriculture a profitable enterprise for its farmers. Feed the Future is focusing its support for the Government of Tajikistan's reform efforts in the Khatlon Province, as these reforms provide lessons learned that can be applied at the national level. To maximize impact, Feed the Future is coordinating closely with the development partner community in Tajikistan, represented by the Development Coordination Council, and the Government of Tajikistan.

Water Management. Tajikistan is a landlocked country with an arid climate and dry soils, making farmers heavily dependent on irrigation; however, many of the country's irrigation and drainage systems have fallen into disrepair over the past two decades. So, [in addition to national-level reforms](#) focused on water, Feed the Future is supporting local solutions such as the creation of water users associations. These community groups plan needed repairs to old irrigation systems and plan delivery schedules that make efficient use of irrigation water.

Gender Integration. In Tajikistan, women play a major role in farming but lack control over resources in the household and within society. Feed the Future is addressing gender issues to support broad-based growth that is inclusive of both men and women. Strengthening the fruit and vegetable value chains, where women predominate, helps build capacity among women to not only improve household farming but also to generate income and increase control of their assets. Feed the Future is targeting nutritional behavior change activities toward women and men to ensure improved household nutrition and health. The initiative also considers gender roles in service delivery, such as by identifying and training women facilitators to act as local organizers. All efforts to advance agrarian reform help ensure that women are fully represented and receive and control their share of land and water resources.

Nutrition. Undernutrition among women and children is a serious public health concern in Tajikistan, contributing to maternal and child mortality and perpetuating the cycle of hunger and poverty. Feed the Future is investing in a combination of food-based inputs, high-impact nutrition interventions and targeted support for nutrition-sensitive agriculture to help Tajikistan address this issue. Interventions include assistance to the Government of Tajikistan to distribute micronutrient supplement “sprinkles” to pregnant women and young children, social and behavior change communication for better health practices, improved access to safe drinking water, and improved sanitation and hygiene. To make nutrition gains across the country, the United States is also supporting salt iodization and flour fortification.

Capacity Development. Feed the Future is helping Tajikistan develop the capacity of local institutions and community-based organizations. By supporting public and private agricultural extension services, Feed the Future is helping provide advice to farm households on production techniques, natural resource management and nutrition, as well as supporting the formation of producer groups to facilitate access to inputs and markets. Feed the Future is also supporting village organizations, particularly women’s groups, by providing advisory services that help empower rural residents to tackle development challenges. To ensure the sustainability of investments and reforms, Feed the Future is also supporting private sector value chain actors and public sector initiatives.

Scaling Innovations. Feed the Future in Tajikistan is focusing on scaling technologies and practices to help smallholder farmers across target value chains, including extended season vegetables production and marketing.

Results

Results by the numbers

- More than **6,500 farmers and other producers** applied new technologies and management practices for the first time last year with Feed the Future’s help.
- Producers applied improved technologies and management practices on more than **123,300 hectares** of land with Feed the Future’s help last year.
- Feed the Future-supported farmers and producers increased the value of their agricultural product sales last year by more than **\$765,400**.
- Feed the Future leveraged more than **\$1.4 million** in new private investment in food and agriculture in Tajikistan.
- U.S. Government programs reached more than **66,400 children** under 5 years old to improve their nutrition.

Key achievements in 2014

- More than 127,400 households benefited from Feed the Future, the majority of which tend five hectares or less.
- Feed the Future established 12 legal aid centers, which provided land rights services to more than 21,000 farmers.
- Feed the Future helped bring more than 50 percent of farmland in target regions—122,653 hectares—under improved irrigation and water management.
- In the fruit and vegetable value chains, Feed the Future helped farmers increase sales by \$1.1 million, leveraged \$1.4 million in private sector investment to upgrade storage and processing, and facilitated \$1.3 million in loans to farmers, input dealers, and agricultural small and medium-sized businesses.
- Feed the Future provided policy support in natural resources management and food security and supported the Tajik government in its first year as a member of the Scaling-Up Nutrition Movement.

What you need to know about these results

These results reflect information from USAID, U.S. Department of Agriculture and the U.S. Department of Treasury (through the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program) reported into Feed the Future’s central monitoring system for FY2014. For more information on the indicators above, please view our [FY14 Feed the Future progress report](#). All dollar amounts are listed in U.S. dollars.

Opportunities

The Government of Tajikistan is committed to implementing a progressive set of agricultural reforms to improve food security and nutrition. Its food security strategy is reflected in the Agrarian Policy Concept and Food Security, the Agriculture Investment Plan, and other documents and laws. With donor support, the government is building on this work to develop a focused land, water and agrarian reform program.

In partnership with the international community, the Government of Tajikistan is advancing reforms that will ensure that farmers have secure and marketable land-use rights, allow farmers to make market-driven decisions, increase the role for community-based water users' associations, and increase household utilization of nutritious food. The Government of Tajikistan is also eager to diversify the agriculture sector by encouraging the cultivation of profitable food crops in conjunction with expanded agricultural extension opportunities.

In November 2012, the World Bank approved more than \$45 million in financing for Tajikistan to rehabilitate irrigation and drainage infrastructure and improve water resource management policies in Khatlon Province. Funding comes from the World Bank-managed [Global Agriculture and Food Security Program](#) and International Development Association.

Looking for opportunities to work in our Feed the Future countries? Visit the opportunities tabs on our [Research](#) and [Civil Society](#) pages.

If you're a [private sector](#) company interested in a partnership with Feed the Future agencies in the areas of food security and nutrition in Tajikistan, use our [interactive online tool](#) to learn more, register your partnership ideas with us, and get connected to a partnership expert who can help address your interest.

Activities

Feed the Future supports the following programs, partnerships and organizations in Tajikistan.

- [AVRDC - The World Vegetable Center](#)
- [Department of Defense's National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency](#)
- [Enabling Agricultural Trade](#)
- [Farmer Advisory Services in Tajikistan \(FAST\)](#)
- [Farmer-to-Farmer Program](#)
- [Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Collaborative Research on Integrated Pest Management](#)
- [Global Agriculture and Food Security Program](#)
- [Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition](#)
- [Innovation for Agricultural Training and Education](#) (InnovATE)
- [International Potato Center](#) (CIP)
- [International Water Management Institute](#)
- Maternal and Child Health Project
- [Modernizing Extension and Advisory Services](#)
- [Tajikistan Land Reform and Farm Restructuring Project](#)
- [USDA Cochran Fellowship Program](#)

Target Regions

Funding

