

Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation Tajikistan 200122

Title: Restoring sustainable livelihoods for food-insecure people

Duration: 3 years (1 October 2010 to 30 September 2013)

Number of beneficiaries: 356,000

WFP food tonnage: 20,789

WFP food cost: US\$10,271,419

Total cost to WFP: US\$17,000,214

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Hit by a succession of compounding crises throughout 2008 and 2009, and affected by recurring natural disasters, Tajikistan faces enormous challenges to provide basic health, education and social protection services to its people. A former Soviet republic, the country remains the poorest in the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) despite economic growth in recent years. Tajikistan has been particularly hard hit by the 2008 global economic downturn, which resulted in a sharp fall in labour migrants' remittances, a financial lifeline for many rural households and a major contribution to the country's economy. Widespread unemployment and a decline in demand and prices for Tajikistan's key exports, cotton and aluminium, exacerbate the economic and social hardship.

The protracted relief and recovery operation (PRRO) will support the most vulnerable among the 1.4 million people who are food-insecure, according to the findings of the Food Security Monitoring System (FSMS). WFP, together with partners in the Food Security Cluster, established the FSMS in October 2008 in Tajikistan to collect and analyse food security data on a quarterly basis. Geographical and beneficiary targeting are conducted on the basis of the FSMS reports.

The PRRO will provide food assistance to food-insecure people and improve household food consumption through relief and recovery activities. In line with Strategic Objective 1 of the WFP Strategic Plan (2008-2013), WFP will address the immediate food needs and protection of livelihoods of communities affected by recurrent natural disasters and reduce acute malnutrition in children under 5 in targeted areas. The re-establishment and restoration of livelihoods of shock-affected households will be supported under Strategic Objective 3. The PRRO will also support the Government in further developing national capacities to monitor food security and shocks (Strategic Objective 5).

The PRRO is fully aligned with the Government's commitment to achieve the Millennium Development Goals 1 ("Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger") and 4 ("Reduce child mortality"). It supports the Production and Social Blocks of the 2010-2012 Poverty Reduction Strategy; the coordinated Joint Country Partnership Strategy; the National Food Security Programme; and the Food and Nutrition Security and Quality Basic Services pillars of the 2010-2015 United Nations Development Assistance Framework.

SITUATION ANALYSIS AND SCENARIO

The overall context

1. Tajikistan is a land-locked, low-income, food-deficit country with an estimated population of 7.4 million people.¹ Ninety-three percent of the territory is mountainous and only 7 percent suitable for cultivation. Following independence in 1991, a devastating civil war broke out which lasted until 1997.
2. The country ranks 127th out of 182 countries in the 2009 Human Development Index and has a Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per capita of US\$1,753.² The World Bank Tajikistan Living Standards Survey, conducted in November 2007, determined a 54 percent poverty prevalence, with 17 percent of the population living in extreme poverty.³
3. When the global food, fuel and financial crisis struck in 2008, the Tajik people were pushed to the limit of their reserves. A high dependence on imports means the country is vulnerable to volatile food prices. Although prices have come down since the height of the high food prices crisis in 2008, they are still 50 percent higher than they were in 2007. The 2008-2009 winter, the harshest in four decades, coupled with a severe energy crisis, caused immense suffering. Food reserves and plants froze and livestock died from hunger and cold.
4. Tajikistan is highly prone to natural disasters. Locust outbreaks, localized droughts, floods and mudslides during 2009 exacerbated the already precarious living conditions of the population. Tremors and earthquakes are common, with one of the most recent occurring in January 2010 in Vanj district and affecting 8,000 people. In April and May 2010, the worst floods in ten years hit southern Tajikistan, affecting 16,000 people. The Committee for Emergency Situations (CoES) estimates that in the first quarter of 2010, damages caused by natural disasters cost the country's economy US\$572 million.⁴
5. The country is also vulnerable to health pandemics. A polio outbreak in south-western Tajikistan in April 2010 quickly resulted in 139 cases.⁵ Tajikistan also has the highest incidence of tuberculosis (TB) of the five Central Asian Republics (231 per 100,000⁶ compared with 15 per 100,000 in Western Europe), with TB incidence and the TB mortality rate increasing every year since 1996. Typhoid outbreaks occur regularly as does Crimean-Congo Hemorrhagic Fever, which in 2009 was transmitted for the first time person to person.
6. The global economic crisis put a stop to the growth trends of previous years. Tajikistan's aluminium and cotton exports fell significantly, due to lower world demand and prices, coupled with reduced production because of energy shortages.

¹ State committee on Statistics Republic of Tajikistan, Information Bulletin on Food Security and Poverty in the Republic of Tajikistan, Quarter 2, 2009, issued in Dushanbe, 2009.

² Human Development Report, Statistical Update 2008/2009, <http://hdrstats.undp.org/>

³ Established at US\$2.15 per person per day and US\$1.33 respectively.

⁴ Speech of H.E. President Emomali Rahmon, Extraordinary meeting on disasters in Sughd and Khatlon, 10 May 2010, Dushanbe.

⁵ As of 25 May 2010, WHO and the Ministry of Health confirmed 513 cases of acute flaccid paralysis have been reported from Tajikistan. Most cases are reported from the south-west of the country, in an area bordering Afghanistan and Uzbekistan.

⁶ WHO, 2007.

7. One of the greatest shocks, however, was the plummeting of remittances from Tajik migrants working abroad, mostly in the construction sector in Russia and Kazakhstan. By 2008, income from remittances accounted for almost 50 percent of the GDP,⁷ making migrant labour the most important export factor economically. Until the financial crisis hit, 55 percent of rural households depended on remittances as their main source of income.⁸ During 2009, remittances dropped by 35 percent compared to 2008, according to estimates from the National Bank of Tajikistan (NBT) and the International Monetary Fund (IMF).⁹
8. Agriculture represents 22 percent of GDP¹⁰ and 66 percent of employment. Sixty-four percent of the rural population depends on agriculture for their livelihood, the sector with the lowest wages and salaries. Women comprise over 70 percent of all agricultural workers.¹¹ Whilst the officially registered unemployment figure is 3.6 percent, the actual unemployment rate is believed to be much higher.¹² Those employed receive low wages, averaging TJS 259 per month,¹³ often with delayed salary payments.

Food security and nutrition situation

9. The FSMS results of April 2010 show that food insecurity affects more than one million people in Tajikistan. The results also show that the increase in moderate food insecurity, from 34 percent in April 2008 to 36 percent in March 2010, is closely linked to shocks. The country's natural disasters, prevalence of diseases, high food prices, and shrinking remittances and income are among the root causes of food insecurity in rural households. Food-insecure households spend more than 60 percent of their income on food and the poorest families go into debt to buy food. Food prices are still higher than they were in 2007. The price of bread has more than doubled between end-2007 and end-2008 and has remained at these high levels since then.¹⁴ As of August 2010, the price of cooking oil was still between 35 and 50 percent higher than in August 2007. In March 2010, the price of pulses reached a four-year peak of US\$1.15 per kilogram, an increase of 180 percent since 2007. As two-thirds of the Tajik rural population depends on markets for their food needs, this continues to negatively affect food security and dietary diversity.¹⁵
10. The 2009 cereal harvest was far better than the average of the previous five years, and considerably better than 2008. This is attributed mostly to favourable rainfall and reforms in the agricultural sector. However, significant pockets of food

⁷ Estimates of the International Monetary Fund and the National Bank of Tajikistan.

⁸ WFP FSMS Findings, May 2009.

⁹ NBT-IMF Monthly Bulletin, January 2010.

¹⁰ State committee on Statistics Republic of Tajikistan, Information Bulletin on Food Security and Poverty in the Republic of Tajikistan, Quarter 2, 2009, Dushanbe, 2009.

¹¹ United Nations General Assembly, Promotion and protection of all human right, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development, Mission to Tajikistan, May 2009.

¹² Knuth, L. (2008, p. 6) finds that "the actual rate may be as high as 40 percent nationwide, with some areas having up to 60 percent unemployment".

¹³ State committee on Statistics Republic of Tajikistan, Information Bulletin on Food Security and Poverty in the Republic of Tajikistan, Quarter 2, 2009, issued in Dushanbe, 2009. Against the January 2010 exchange rate of TJS 4.37 this is US\$ 59.27.

¹⁴ WFP monthly market price survey.

¹⁵ See Annex IV.

insecurity remain because of the high food prices and Tajikistan's dependence on food imports to meet some 40 percent of its needs.¹⁶ Vulnerable groups in the shock-affected and most food-insecure parts of the country are of particular concern, including malnourished children and households with few productive assets.

11. Even before the recent accumulated shocks, the country had low social indicators due to poverty and poor basic services. Tajikistan has one of the highest infant mortality rates in the CIS region (46 for every 1,000 live births),¹⁷ which is more than twice the average rate for the CIS countries. The nutritional status of children under 5 has not improved since the last nation-wide survey in 2005. Global acute malnutrition is still estimated at between 5 and 7 percent and chronic malnutrition ranges between 27 and 39 percent.¹⁸ The main causes of malnutrition are the lack of financial access to food, poor dietary diversity, inadequate feeding practices, and lack of clean water and hygiene.
12. The TB-related burden of illness and death is especially high in food-insecure rural areas. TB patients are often males from poor families who migrate to Russia or Kazakhstan to work and become the chief bread-winner of the household. When they contract TB from living in extremely sub-standard conditions, they leave their jobs and return home, where they put new pressures on household spending and may spread the disease to family members. TB patients are the lowest income earners in the country, do not own assets such as livestock or land and live mostly in disaster-prone and food-insecure areas.¹⁹

Scenarios

13. Food insecurity has affected about 30 to 35 percent of the country's population over the past two years. WFP expects that the impact of the global economic crisis, high food prices and frequent natural disasters will continue to challenge the ability of the Government and the population to move closer to food security.
14. The PRRO will address urgent needs resulting from the multiple shocks that are affecting vulnerable households in food-insecure areas, while seizing opportunities to recover and support damaged livelihoods. Significant new shocks may require expanded emergency operations. WFP will also seek opportunities to shift towards longer-term recovery, including through its complementary development projects in Tajikistan.

POLICIES, CAPACITIES AND ACTIONS OF THE GOVERNMENT AND OTHERS

Policies, capacities and actions of the Government

¹⁶ FAO Crop and Food Security Assessment Mission in Tajikistan, October 2009, p. 26

¹⁷ World Bank Living Standards Survey, November 2007

¹⁸ WFP, FAO, UNICEF, Government of Tajikistan: A Joint Emergency Food Security, Livelihoods, Agriculture and Nutrition Assessment April-May 2008; WFP/WHO Tajikistan Food Security and Nutrition Monitoring System January and July 2009; UNICEF, The State of the World's Children 2009. A UNICEF, Ministry of Health and Swiss Tropical Institute National Nutrition Survey is ongoing and WFP will take into consideration the results to adapt its activities once results are available

¹⁹ WFP post-distribution monitoring of TB activities, 2008-2010.

15. In 2000, the Government signed up to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). In 2006, it issued long- and medium-term strategies for social development through a National Development Strategy (NDS) for 2007 – 2015 and a new Poverty Reduction Strategy (PRS) covering the period 2010 – 2012. Despite serious economic constraints, the budget provision for 2010 for the social sector (education, health and social welfare) represents 37 percent of the national budget.²⁰
16. The Ministry of Economic Development and Trade is officially responsible for food security issues. Under its leadership, an inter-ministerial Working Group on Food Security was established to prepare the National Food Security Programme, which focuses on the twin objectives of improving nutrition and agricultural production. The Working Group also provided inputs into the Government's Anti-Crisis Plan to address the economic crisis. A High-Level Task Force on Food Security comprising key ministers and officials supports the Government's leadership role in improving food security.
17. The State Committee on Statistics issues a quarterly Food Security and Poverty Bulletin. While this Bulletin offers useful macro-level information, it provides limited data on the various levels of vulnerability and does not allow for the identification of the most food-insecure households.

Policies, capacities and actions of other major actors

18. United Nations agencies in Tajikistan have recently finalized the 2010-2015 United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF), which is fully aligned with the Poverty Reduction Strategy (PRS) and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The UNDAF is structured around the following four pillars: i) Poverty Reduction and Governance; ii) Food and Nutrition Security; iii) Clean Water, Sustainable Environment and Energy; and iv) Quality Basic Services. WFP is a key partner in the pillars focusing on food and nutrition and basic services.
19. Within the framework of the Food Security Cluster and in close collaboration with the Government, WFP has the lead in food security assessments and monitoring. The FSMS issues updates on the food security situation in rural areas; this information is used to identify and prioritize specific areas and population groups for assistance.

Coordination

20. WFP and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) co-chair the Food Security Cluster, which includes United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). Government, financial institutions and bilateral donors periodically attend the meetings. The cluster coordinates all activities linked to food security and nutrition, in both development and humanitarian spheres.
21. Humanitarian interventions are coordinated through the Rapid Emergency Assistance Coordination Team (REACT), chaired by the Government's Committee of Emergency Situations (CoES), and administratively supported by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). REACT also oversees the early warning system for disaster prevention on behalf of the humanitarian community.

²⁰ Government of Tajikistan, National Budget for 2010.

22. The different mechanisms for monitoring and responding to food insecurity are complementary; information exchange and consultation take place regularly. One of the focus areas of this PRRO is the consolidation of these mechanisms into one in order to improve humanitarian activities and interventions in the food security sector.
23. Donor coordination is conducted through the Donor Coordination Council (DCC) led by bilateral donors. The United Nations is part of this Council and of the sub-groups on agriculture and education. The DCC designed a Joint Country Partnership Strategy (JCPS) to enhance aid effectiveness and objectives of the donor support to Tajikistan, in line with the Paris and Accra Declarations.²¹ The JCPS is fully aligned with the Government's PRS.

OBJECTIVES OF WFP ASSISTANCE

24. The overall objective of the PRRO is to improve food access for food-insecure people affected by natural disasters, high food prices and the global financial crisis. This will be done through relief assistance, and early recovery activities that focus on restoring and improving sustainable livelihoods. The PRRO is fully in line with the objectives of the PRS and UNDAF and supports MDGs 1 and 4.
25. The immediate objectives are to:
 - a. Meet the immediate food needs of victims of recurrent natural disasters (SO1);
 - b. Protect the livelihoods of food-insecure households affected by recurrent shocks through vulnerable group feeding (SO1);
 - c. Reduce acute malnutrition in children under 5 in targeted areas through support to the Ministry of Health's therapeutic and supplementary feeding programmes (SO1); and
 - d. Rebuild the livelihoods of shock-affected families through the restoration and creation of sustainable community assets (SO3).

WFP RESPONSE STRATEGY

Nature and effectiveness of food-security related assistance to date

26. WFP has been active in Tajikistan since 1993, providing over US\$ 217 million in support of three PRROs and two emergency operations (EMOPs). PRRO 106030 was launched in July 2007 with the aim of providing food assistance to 590,800 beneficiaries. Compounding crises and the deteriorating food security situation led to an expansion of the activities to reach 785,000 beneficiaries in 2009.
27. WFP's activities in Tajikistan have helped to meet the emergency needs of families affected by natural disasters, while protecting the livelihoods of vulnerable populations during the most critical times of the year (the pre-harvest and pre-winter periods). Food assistance has helped improve the nutritional status of malnourished

²¹ The JCPS has three themes: Theme 1 Support for Broad-Based Economic Growth aims at increasing agricultural efficiency and profitability (...) which is highly relevant to WFP's work. Theme 2 Support for Human Development, aims at enhancing education and health, and addressing vulnerability through improved social protection. Theme 3 deals with support to good governance.

children receiving supplementary and therapeutic treatment and increase school attendance and the treatment completion rate for TB patients. It has supported the rehabilitation of community assets and helped enhance local capacities in food security and project monitoring.

Strategy outline

28. This PRRO will cover relief as well as recovery activities. The relief component will total 88 percent of beneficiaries in the first year. WFP expects the overall number of beneficiaries to gradually decline as longer-term activities shift to future development programmes.
29. Relief activities will include i) emergency response and vulnerable group feeding to assist population groups that have become severely food-insecure as a result of shocks including natural disasters; ii) blanket feeding for children 6-23 months; and iii) targeted supplementary and therapeutic feeding programmes for malnourished children. Assistance will focus on immediate food and nutrition needs, increased household food consumption and the protection of livelihoods.
30. The early recovery component will focus on the most food-insecure areas where economic shocks are exacerbated by recurring weather hazards. WFP will support the restoration and rehabilitation of community assets through food-for-work (FFW) activities, such as tree planting, riverbank protection and rehabilitation of water and irrigation systems.
31. Recognizing the food insecurity and extreme susceptibility to shocks of TB patients and their families, WFP has prepared a complementary development project in consultation with the Government and other stakeholders to support food-insecure TB patients and their families during the course of their treatment. Since this development project is expected to start in January 2011, the needs of this specific group for the period October-December 2010 will be met under the PRRO.

Hand-over strategy

32. The previous PRRO aimed to hand over key WFP-supported activities to the Government. This process was put on hold following the high food price crisis in 2008, the global financial crisis and the consequent deterioration of food security of Tajikistan's most vulnerable families. The economic outlook for 2010 and beyond remains cautious and a more gradual approach for a sustainable hand-over will be pursued during the life of the PRRO.
33. Sustainability of nutritional programmes should be assured by health authorities, who have in place protocols for therapeutic feeding and are planning national awareness and information campaigns on appropriate feeding and nutrition practices.
34. WFP plans to conduct a Comprehensive Food Security and Vulnerability Analysis (CSFVA) in 2011 that will serve as a baseline for the hand-over strategy with the Government, a benchmark of progress towards achieving the goals of the UNDAF, PRS and the Food Security Programme of the Government, and an evaluation of the PRRO during 2013.

35. In the meantime, WFP will continue to support the development of local capacities. The emphasis will be on developing the capacity of government staff at the central, regional and local levels, on food security assessments, nutrition as well as disaster preparedness and response. Through its cooperation with a range of government entities – including the MoH, CoES, and the district and village-level authorities (*Hukumats* and *Jamoats*, respectively) and regular training, WFP will strengthen the skills sets of numerous partners in food aid management, distributions, beneficiary selection and monitoring.

BENEFICIARIES AND TARGETING

36. Over one million people have been identified as food-insecure in Tajikistan. Of this group, WFP plans to reach about 356,000 beneficiaries under the PRRO and target an additional 506,000 vulnerable people through separate development projects.

TABLE 1. BENEFICIARIES BY ACTIVITY TYPE			
Activity	Male	Female	Total
Emergency response	5,100	5,100	10,200
Vulnerable group feeding	153,800	153,700	307,500
Support to TB/HIV patients	4,127	4,123	8,250
Therapeutic feeding & caretakers	1,000	2,850	3,850
Targeted supplementary feeding	13,450	12,900	26,350
Blanket supplementary feeding	10,250	9,900	20,150
Food for work*	47,500	47,500	95,000
Total**	177,700	178,300	356,000

* FFW beneficiaries include 19,000 participants and 76,000 family members.

** The total number of beneficiaries has been adjusted to avoid double-counting people assisted through VGF, blanket supplementary feeding and FFW.

37. Targeting is guided by the findings of the FSMS, which has identified 21 priority districts.²² WFP will focus its VGF and FFW interventions on these districts. Any area affected by a sudden, large-scale shock will also be targeted as required.
38. *Emergency Response*: Following minor natural disasters, local and regional authorities are normally able to cover the immediate needs of the affected populations. In case of a larger-scale natural disaster, WFP will provide food assistance to address the immediate needs of the affected households and protect their livelihoods. Food packages will be provided following joint assessments in areas affected by shocks, carried out with the REACT Secretariat, representatives from the CoES and local authorities. WFP expects to provide assistance to approximately 10,000 people over the three years of the PRRO.

²² Khatlon region: Khuroson, Jomi, Yovon, Vakhsh, Rumi, Jilikul, Baljuvon, Shurobod, Sarband, Bohtar, Muminobod and Khovaling. Sughd region: Mastchoh, Asht and Bobojon Gafurov. DRD region: Vakhdat, Fayzobod, Rasht, Tojikobod and Jirgatol. GBAO: Murghab.

39. *Vulnerable Group Feeding*: WFP plans to assist 307,500 people who are most impacted by shocks and whose needs are not covered by other safety nets or donor assistance. VGF plays a particularly important role in supporting communities and preventing asset depletion in the most food-insecure areas during the winter, when fuel costs are high and employment opportunities scarce, and during the “lean season” before the first harvest of the year. Assistance is provided for a period of 120 days per year. Within the targeted districts determined by the FSMS to be most food-insecure, beneficiaries will be selected in close consultation with local authorities and communities whose local knowledge and experience help reduce inclusion and exclusion errors. Regular monitoring by WFP will ensure the effectiveness of this targeting system. Beneficiaries must meet all four of the following criteria:
- e. Monthly cash income per capita of less than TJS 93;²³
 - f. Ownership of less than 0.2 hectares of arable rain-fed land;
 - g. Ownership of fewer than six head of livestock (combination of sheep, goats, cows, poultry); and
 - h. Lack of productive assets.
40. *Support to TB patients and families*: Between October and December 2010, WFP, in partnership with the Global Fund²⁴ (through UNDP) and the Ministry of Health, will support with food assistance TB patients in all 64 districts of the country throughout the course of their treatment, both when they are in-patients at the National Tuberculosis Centres and when they return as out-patients, in order to motivate them to complete the treatment. WFP will also give food support to the families of the TB patients in the 21 most food-insecure districts as identified by the FSMS to help them cope with the lost income and other inherent shocks in their social environment. From January 2011 onwards, WFP will assist TB patients and their families under a new development project. An average of 1,000 HIV-affected people undergoing antiretroviral (ARV) treatment will also receive food rations.
41. *Therapeutic and supplementary feeding*: Therapeutic and supplementary feeding programmes will be implemented mostly in the Khatlon region where malnutrition rates are high. Severe and moderate malnutrition rates in 2008 were the highest in the country, at 7 percent.²⁵ Beneficiaries are identified through screening at the primary health centres using mid-upper arm circumference (MUAC) screening and weight for height (W/H) measures as per the World Health Organization (WHO) 2005 standards.²⁶ Given the high prevalence of chronic malnutrition as demonstrated by high stunting rates, WFP will provide a premix of fortified blended food, sugar and vegetable oil to 20,000 children 6-23 months twice a year under a blanket supplementary feeding programme (BSF). This nutrition intervention will be implemented along with the VGF programme to prevent young children from sliding back into moderate or severe acute malnutrition. Blanket supplementary feeding is expected to contribute to reducing chronic malnutrition. Some 26,000 moderately

²³ At April 2010 exchange rate this is US\$ 21.10.

²⁴ The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.

²⁵ WFP, FAO, UNICEF, Government of Tajikistan: A Joint Emergency Food Security, Livelihoods, Agriculture and Nutrition Assessment April-May 2008

²⁶ Admission criteria for therapeutic feeding centers are: W/H < 70% of the median and/or bilateral oedema. Admission criteria for supplementary feeding centers are W/H 70-79% of the median and/or MUAC 110-119 mm for those ≥ 75 cm in height.

malnourished children 6-59 months will be assisted under targeted supplementary feeding (TSF) and 2,000 severely malnourished children 6-59 months will be provided with food under phase two of therapeutic feeding. Some 2,000 caretakers of severely malnourished children will also receive support for the duration of the treatment.

42. *Food for Work*: Family rations will be provided to 19,000 participants (95,000 beneficiaries for three years) engaged in the rehabilitation and re-establishment of community assets. Over the course of the PRRO, it is expected that beneficiaries receiving unconditional food assistance under the VGF programme will migrate into FFW projects. Food-insecure households and communities will “graduate” from VGF into a productive and self-sustaining enterprise (such as the ongoing tree-planting project), building greater resilience against shocks. FFW will be implemented in the 21 districts identified by the FSMS as the most food-insecure and in areas affected by natural disasters such as floods, mudslides and earthquakes. The beneficiary selection for FFW participants will follow the same methodology and criteria than for VGF.

NUTRITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS AND RATIONS

43. The typical diet in Tajikistan is quite poor. The average daily caloric intake is estimated at 2,175 Kcal per capita, but most of it is from carbohydrates. WFP’s assessments show that in rural areas, cereals, fat/oil and sugar are eaten more than five times a week; fruits, vegetables, and dairy products are eaten three times a week; meat and other animal protein sources are eaten once a week. The diet of the most food-insecure households is even less diverse and consists mainly of bread and tea with sugar twice a day.
44. To address micronutrient deficiencies, WFP rations will include fortified foods such as fortified wheat flour, vegetable oil enriched with vitamins A and D and iodized salt. Wheat-soya blend is also included in the supplementary feeding programme. This food basket conforms to beneficiaries’ tastes and preferences. An overview of the rations for each activity is shown below:

TABLE 2: DAILY FOOD RATIONS BY ACTIVITY (g/person/day)							
Commodity Type	Emergency response	Vulnerable group feeding	TB/HIV Patients	Therapeutic Feeding	Supplem. feeding - Targeted	Supplem. feeding – Blanket	Food for work
Wheat Flour	400	400	400	-	-	-	400
Pulses	40	40	40	-	-	-	40
Veg. Oil	15	15	15	30	20	10	15
Salt	5	5	5	5	-	-	5
Sugar	-	-	-	30	15	10	-
Wheat Soya Blend	-	-	-	225	225	200	-
Total	460	460	460	290	260	220	460

Total kcal/day	1,669	1,669	1,669	1,286	1,137	1,009	1,669
% Kcal from protein	55.8	55.8	55.8	45	45	44	55.8
% Kcal from fat	21.5	21.5	21.5	43.5	33.5	23.2	21.5

45. An overview of the total food requirements per activity is shown below:

TABLE 3: TOTAL FOOD REQUIREMENTS BY ACTIVITY (mt)								
Commodity Type	Emerg. Response	Vulnerable group feeding	TB/HIV Patients	Therapeutic feeding	Supplem. feeding - Targeted	Supplem. feeding - Blanket	Food for work	Total (mt)
Wheat Flour	245	12,241	1,372	-	-	-	3,420	17,278
Pulses	25	1,225	137	-	-	-	342	1,729
Veg. Oil	10	458	53	1	37	20	128	707
Salt	4	153	18	1	-	-	44	220
Sugar	-	-	-	1	28	20	-	49
Wheat Soya Blend	-	-	-	9	415	382	-	806
Total	284	14,077	1,580	12	480	422	3,934	20,789

IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

46. *Participation:* While women have increasingly been assuming a greater responsibility in the household as their husbands migrate abroad, the wives of migrants must shoulder the burden of domestic and farm labour and the increased responsibilities for child and elder care. The larger workload has not been accompanied by increased participation by the wives in decision-making or resulted in higher social status. WFP's activities, especially under FFW (fruit tree planting and rehabilitation of water sources), are expected to provide additional income to women, help improve the family's diet and ease the burden of household chores. Women are encouraged to take leadership positions in local committees, where often they constitute half of the membership. This ensures that their interests are taken into account. To further support women's participation in the process, women are the main food entitlement holders under the VGF programme.

47. *Partnerships:* Local and regional government authorities are WFP's main partners for the implementation of the PRRO. These partners assist in the targeting and selection of beneficiaries, participate in emergency assessments and contribute to secondary transport expenditures and handling at the distribution sites.

48. WFP has formal partnership agreements with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), WHO and UNDP on education, nutrition, TB programmes and food security monitoring. WFP and FAO are closely collaborating and intend to strengthen their partnership on food monitoring and food for work/training activities.

Closer partnerships are also being pursued with the World Bank, the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and other development partners.

49. WFP works with international NGOs such as Save the Children and *Cooperazione e Sviluppo* (CESVI), and with local NGOs such as Odamiyat in the southern region of Khatlon. In the eastern Rasht Valley and in the northern Sughd region, WFP collaborates with Mercy Corps and the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE).
50. *Emergency Response and VGF*: WFP implements directly most food distributions under the emergency response and VGF. However, in districts where a local NGO has adequate capacity, WFP carries out food distributions in collaboration with the NGO and local authorities.
51. *Food for work*: WFP will identify partners with the technical capacity and resources to support larger-scale FFW projects creating durable and sustainable assets. In line with WFP Strategic Objectives of WFP, and the priorities established by the Government and the donor community, FFW activities will contribute to disaster mitigation and natural resource management. WFP has started a tree planting project designed to improve climate resilience, raise awareness of environmental protection among schoolchildren and bolster food security among vulnerable families. WFP is also liaising with partners like the World Bank, FAO and IFAD on projects to rehabilitate irrigation systems and thereby improve agricultural production. In parallel with the school feeding development project, WFP will support, through FFW, vital improvements to schools such as school gardens and the construction of latrines for girls.
52. *Nutrition*: Therapeutic and supplementary feeding is implemented with the MoH, UNICEF and WHO. With the introduction of growth monitoring in most areas of Tajikistan, the number of centres requiring support is likely to increase.
53. *Procurement*: Most food commodities for Tajikistan are purchased regionally (Kazakhstan, Russia) on a delivered duty unpaid (DDU) basis and delivered by rail to WFP warehouses. Internationally purchased food commodities arrive through the Baltic port of Riga (Latvia) and are transported by rail to Tajikistan. Local procurement is undertaken where possible, especially for sugar and iodized salt. WFP is exploring possibilities to expand local purchases, milling and possibly fortification of wheat. Together with UNICEF and WHO, WFP will explore possibilities of producing highly nutritious food and micronutrients (sprinkles) locally or regionally to reduce the costs of procurement. Innovative food procurement and market support approaches, as well as new partnerships, could improve the quality of locally-produced cereals and increase production.
54. *Logistical arrangements*: WFP has four warehouses in the country (Dushanbe, Khorog, Sarband and Khujand) with a total capacity of 15,600 mt. WFP is responsible for handling and delivering food from its warehouses to the final distribution points (FDPs). Cooperating partners are responsible for the receipt, handling and storage at the FDPs.

PERFORMANCE MONITORING

55. Results-oriented monitoring and evaluation (M&E) will be conducted during this PRRO, with emphasis on tangible improvements in beneficiaries' lives. WFP will refine its M&E plan to guide individual programme activities, and measure achievements against outputs and outcomes. Outcome indicators will focus on changes to beneficiaries' food consumption patterns, completion and default rates (supplementary feeding and support to therapeutic feeding), improvement and diversification of income sources, and maintenance and increased use of assets created through FFW.
56. Monitoring and reporting will be supported by WFP field monitors to ensure full accountability. Local authorities and partners will be trained and involved in M&E activities.
57. On-site monitoring will be undertaken to ensure that WFP standard procedures and ration scales are followed. Post-distribution and end-use monitoring will be conducted regularly at selected locations providing information on recipients' actual food allocations and use, and outputs and outcomes. Spot checks and health centre records will provide nutrition information. WFP sub-offices will submit consolidated monthly monitoring reports.

RISK ASSESSMENT AND CONTINGENCY PLANNING

Risk assessment

58. Tajikistan is prone to natural disasters such as mudslides, avalanches, floods and droughts. The country is also situated in a zone of constant seismic activity: minor earthquakes are frequent and the risk of a major earthquake in an urban centre features prominently in the country's contingency plan. In 2009, 162 disasters (mudslides, avalanches, floods and droughts) occurred in Tajikistan, causing the death of 50 people and damages of US\$20 million, an increase of 10 percent compared to 2008.²⁷
59. In recent years, provisions were made for emergency response to small-scale disasters of up to 5,000 beneficiaries per year. In this PRRO, provision has been made for some 10,000 beneficiaries for three years. Should a large-scale natural disaster occur, WFP will either launch an emergency operation or expand the relief component through a budget revision of the PRRO.
60. WFP has worked with the Government and partners on the National Disaster Reduction Strategy (NDRS) 2005-2015 and this PRRO is in line with its main principles. The NDRS is, in turn, in line with the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015. Common objectives and strategies enhance the potential to mitigate preventable harm from natural disasters and improve the livelihoods and well-being of vulnerable households and communities.

Contingency Planning

²⁷ Committee of Emergency Situations and Civil Defense under the Government of Tajikistan, Overview of disasters from January to October 2009.

61. The country office has a contingency plan and plays an active role in inter-agency contingency planning. The main scenarios envisaged are a major earthquake, an influenza outbreak, economic crisis and population displacement due to regional instability.
62. In 2008, the REACT²⁸ forum initiated an early warning monitoring mechanism which monitors key indicators related to energy and water levels, food security, market prices, migration and remittances. An update on these indicators is issued monthly and reviewed by the relevant stakeholders for a potential intervention.
63. In the event of a major disaster or emergency, WFP will continue to co-lead with FAO the Food Security Sector, and take the lead in the Logistics Cluster in the event that one is activated.

SECURITY CONSIDERATIONS

64. The entire country is classified by the United Nations as Security Phase 1. Following a recent security assessment of WFP's offices, several upgrades were made to ensure that WFP premises were minimum operating security standards (MOSS) compliant. Additionally, WFP is working with the United Nations Country Team and the Government to identify alternatives for common United Nations' premises. There is a fully staffed United Nations' field security office in Dushanbe with 24 hour/7 days per week coverage, which is supported by area security coordinators.
65. WFP provides communication coverage for the United Nations system in its Khujand and Kurgan-Tyube sub-offices. The emergency communications set up was reviewed and fully upgraded in 2009. The United Nations security budget is cost-shared among 14 agencies.
66. Tajikistan remains a major transit country for drugs and arms smuggling from Afghanistan. Furthermore, there are threats to stability related to insurgent activities in neighbouring countries. The United Nations Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS) and the Security Management Team (SMT) are closely monitoring the situation.

APPROVAL

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Date:.....

Josette Sheeran

Executive Director

ANNEX IA

WFP PROJECT COST BREAKDOWN			
Food ²⁹	Tonnage (mt)	Value (US\$)	Value (US\$)
Cereals	17,278	473	8,172,968
Pulses	1,729	390	674,789
Oil and fats	707	1,319	932,496
Mixed and blended food	806	522	420,980
Others	269	261	70,187
Total food	20,789	494	10,271,419
External transport			393,263
Landside transport, storage and handling			2,542,911
Other direct operational costs			395,768
Direct support costs (see Annex I-B details)			2,284,690
Total direct project costs			15,888,051
Indirect support costs (7%) ³⁰			1,112,164
TOTAL WFP COSTS			17,000,214

²⁹ This is a notional food basket for budgeting and approval. The contents may vary.

³⁰ The indirect support cost rate may be amended by the Board during the project.

ANNEX IB

DIRECT SUPPORT REQUIREMENTS (US\$)	
Staff and Staff Related Costs	
International Professional Staff	958,161
International GS Staff	
Local Staff - National Officers	121,835
Local Staff - General Service	824,004
Local Staff - Temporary assistance	
Local Staff – Overtime	6,000
Hazard Pay & Hardship Allowance	
International Consultants	9,300
Local Consultants	
Non Staff HR: UNV	
Commercial Consultancy Services	
Staff duty travel	35,211
Subtotal	1,954,511
Recurring Expenses	
Rental of Facility	78,400
Utilities General	24,500
Office Supplies and Other Consumables	33,500
Communications and IT Services	42,250
Equipment Repair and Maintenance	22,000
Vehicle Running Cost and Maintenance	55,429
Office Set-up and Repairs	18,000
UN Organization Services	
Subtotal	274,079
Equipment and Capital Costs	
Vehicle leasing	56,100
TC/IT Equipment	
Local Security Costs	
Subtotal	56,100
TOTAL DIRECT SUPPORT COSTS	2,284,690

ANNEX II - Logical Framework Summary

Restoring sustainable livelihoods for food insecure people

Results-Chain (Logic Model)	Performance Indicators	Risks, Assumptions
Strategic Objective 1: Save Lives and Protect livelihoods in Emergencies		
Outcome : 1.1. Reduced acute malnutrition in children under 5 in targeted, emergency-affected populations 1.2 Improved food consumption over assistance period for targeted, emergency-affected beneficiaries.	Outcome indicator: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevalence of acute malnutrition among children under 5 (weight-for-height as %) • Household food consumption score (target: maintain at least borderline consumption of 21.5 or above) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Project funding requirements met; ✓ Security conditions in place and adequate to reach the targeted beneficiaries; ✓ Access to beneficiaries possible in areas affected by natural disasters;

<p>Output: <i>1.1 Food and non-food items distributed in sufficient quantity and quality to targeted women, men, girls and boys under secure conditions.</i></p>	<p>Output indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of women, men, girls and boys receiving food (including fortified, complementary and special nutritional products) and non-food items, by type and as % of planned figures (Target: 100% of planned figures) and actual distribution. • Tonnage of food distributed, by type, as % of planned distribution (planned distribution includes quantity, quality and timeliness) (target: 100% of planned figures) 	
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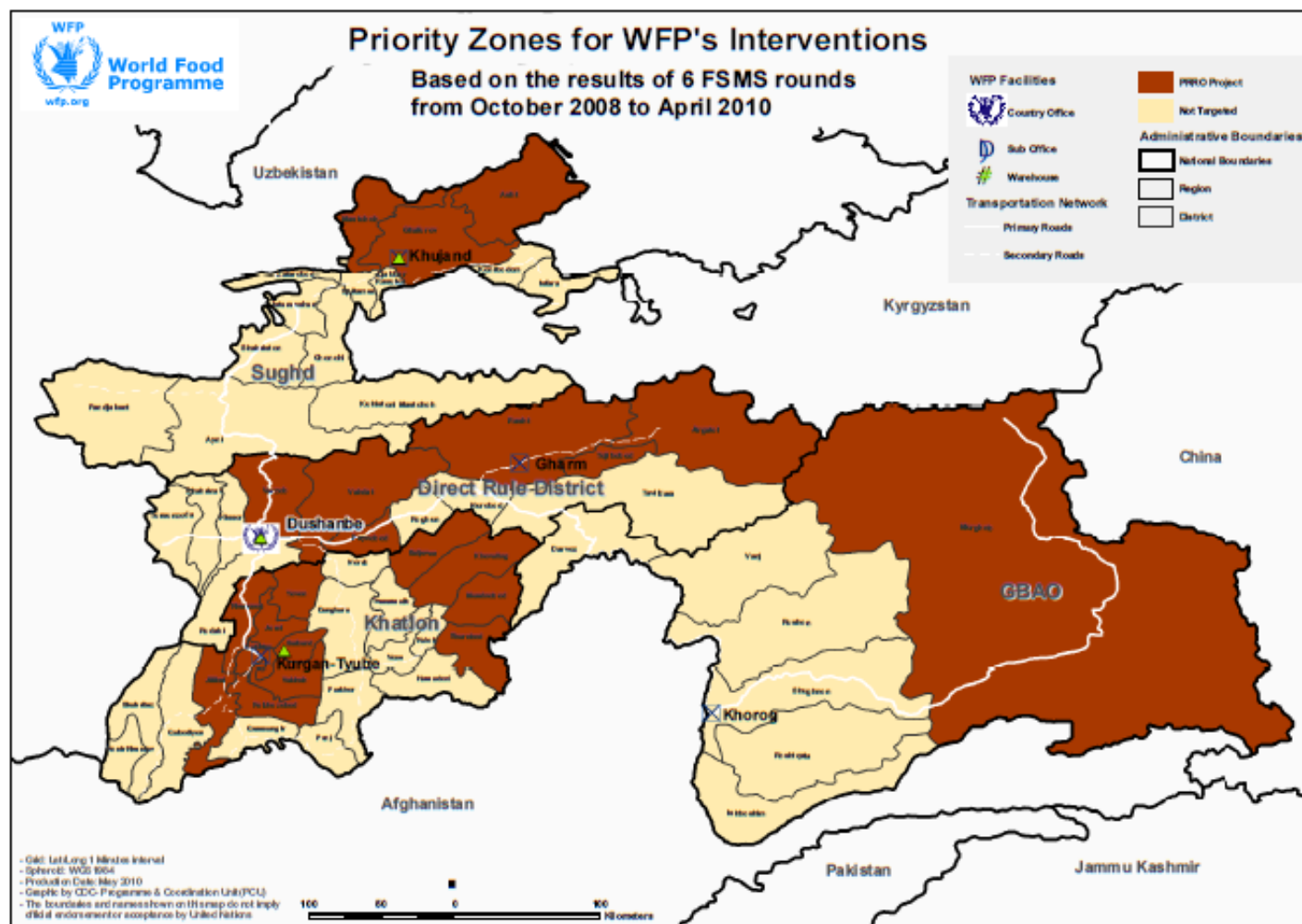
Strategic Objective 3: Restore and rebuild lives and livelihoods in post-conflict, post-disaster or transition situations

<p>Outcome : 3.1. Targeted communities have increased access to assets in fragile, transition situations</p>	<p>Outcome indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community asset score (target: score increased in at least 80% of targeted households) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ <i>Non-Food items provided by CP and local authorities for FFW activities;</i> ✓ <i>Project funding requirements are met;</i> ✓ <i>Favourable weather conditions;</i> ✓ <i>Security conditions are in place;</i> ✓ <i>Access to beneficiaries is possible;</i>
<p>Output: <i>3.1. Food and non-food items distributed in sufficient quantity and quality to targeted women, men, girls and boys under secure conditions.</i> <i>3.2 Developed, built or restored livelihood assets by targeted communities and individuals</i></p>	<p>Output indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of women, men, girls and boys receiving food (including fortified, complementary and special nutritional products) and non-food items, by type and as % of planned figures (target: 100% of planned figures) and actual distribution. • Tonnage of food distributed, by type, as % of planned distribution (planned distribution includes quantity, quality and timeliness) (target: 100% of planned figures) • Number of community assets created or restored by targeted communities and individuals 	

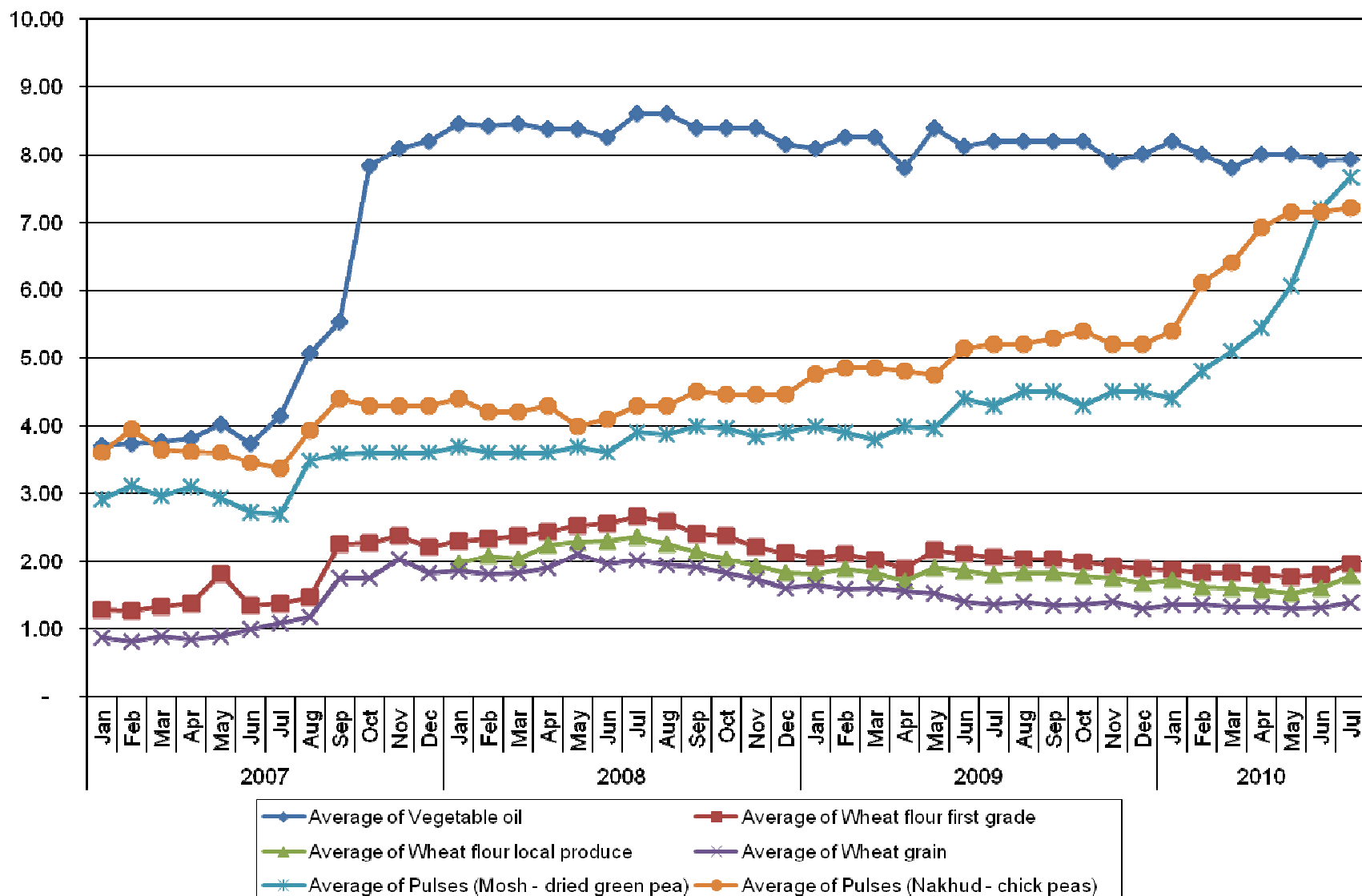
Strategic objective 5: Strengthen the capacities of countries to reduce hunger, including through hand-over strategies and local purchase

<p><i>Outcome:</i> 5.1. Broader national policy frameworks incorporated hunger solutions (Hunger solutions include, but are not restricted to: school feeding, needs assessments, targeting, food management in terms of quantity and quality, market analysis, information management, gender analysis, local tendering processes).</p>	<p>Outcome indicator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hunger solutions in approved United Nations Development Assistance Framework funded and implemented per plans • Government managed Food Security Monitoring System in place 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ <i>Project funding requirements met;</i> ✓ <i>Technical partners available;</i>
<p><i>Output:</i> 5.1. Capacity and awareness developed through WFP-organized actions/training.</p>	<p>Output indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNDAF includes budgeted hunger solutions. • Number of people trained in: needs assessments, targeting, food management quantity and quality, market analysis, information management, gender analysis, local tendering processes; disaggregated by gender and category (WFP, government and partner staff). 	

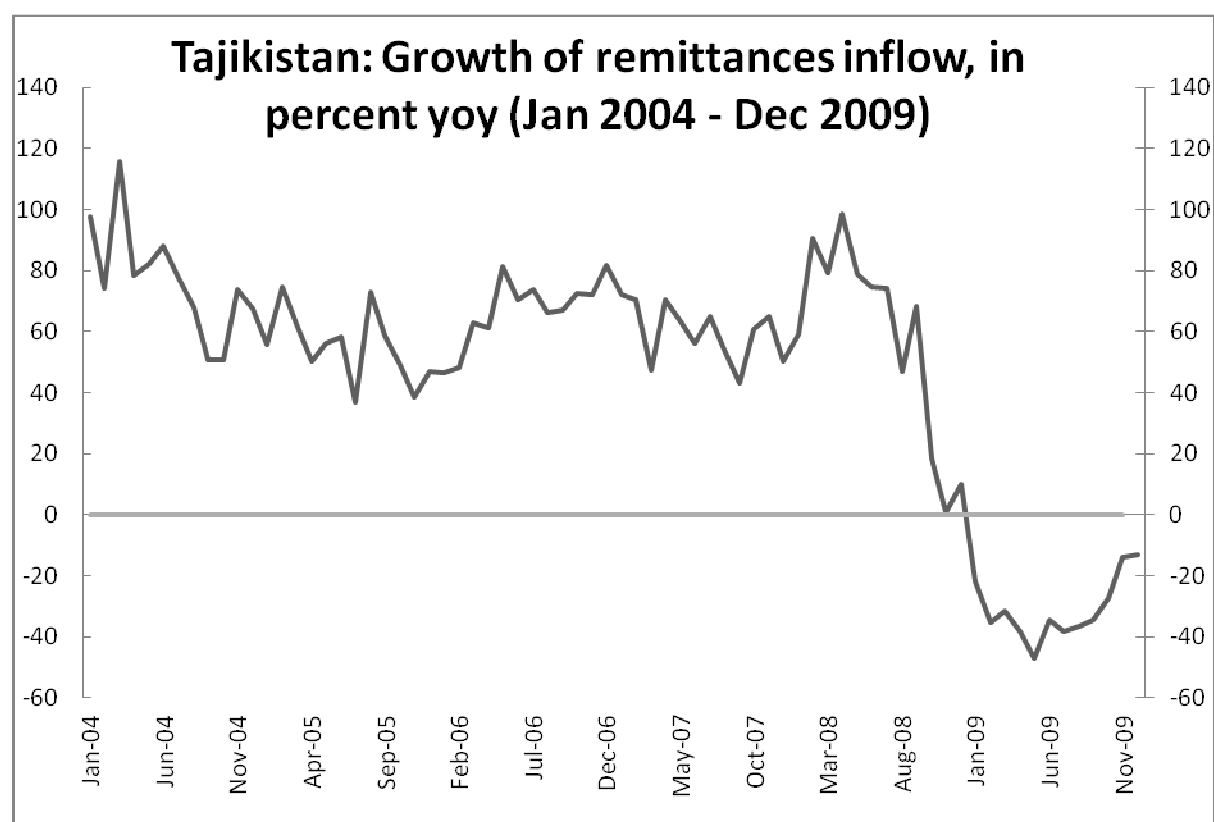
ANNEX III - MAP OF TAJIKISTAN – PRIORITY ZONES FOR INTERVENTION



ANNEX IV – Prices of Basic Commodities



ANNEX V – Remittances Fluctuations (source: IMF and National Bank of Tajikistan)



ANNEX VI – List of acronyms

ARV	Anti-Retroviral Therapy
CEE/CIS	Central and Eastern Europe and Commonwealth of Independent States
DCC	Donor Coordination Council
DDU	Delivered Duty Unpaid
EC	European Commission
FAO	Food and Agricultural Organization
FFW	Food For Work
FSMS	Food Security Monitoring System
GACP	Government's Anti-Crisis Plan
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
IMF	International Monetary Fund
JCSS	Joint Country Support Strategy
JCSS	Joint Country Support Strategy
MDG	Millennium Development Goals
NBT	National Bank of Tajikistan
NDS	National Development Strategy
OSCE	Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe
PRSP	Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper
REACT	Rapid Emergency Assistance Coordination Team
TB	Tuberculosis
TJS	Tajik Somoni (national currency)
TLSS	Tajikistan Living Standards Survey
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNDRMP	United Nations Disaster Risk Management Project
WHO	World Health Organization