



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES

CHANGING LIVES

FOOD SECURITY OUTLOOK

Based on Food Security Outcome Monitoring Survey 2024
The Kyrgyz Republic

This factsheet is based on and reflects key findings from the WFP Food Security and Outcome Monitoring Survey 2024, which is WFP's key research initiative conducted annually and covers various aspects of food security in the Kyrgyz Republic.

BACKGROUND

The WFP Annual Food Security Outcome Monitoring Survey (FSOM) **allows WFP to evaluate both short- and long-term changes in household food security** resulting from its programme interventions, such as direct assistance, improved social protection systems, and disaster risk management. It also assesses households' economic vulnerability and their ability to cope with food insecurity and climate change related issues. This outlook is based on findings from a study conducted in December 2024 in the WFP project impact areas, utilizing primary data collected through a household survey and focus group discussions. **FSOM is a specific instrument that uses two-fold approach to collect information from both project participants and non-participants, allowing for a thorough comparison of project interventions while assessing the impact on targeted population groups.**

Food Security Outcome Monitoring (FSOM):

- Evaluates progress towards the expected outcomes of WFP's Country Strategic Plan 2023-2027, as measured by key food security, climate resilience and inclusivity indicators, on an annual basis.
- Provides insights into food security trends and early warning signals to proactively identify vulnerable areas and facilitate timely interventions.
- Enables the calculation of 20 indicators and indexes utilizing more than 100 variables with gender and age disaggregation.

Targeting criteria

Project participants are selected in collaboration with state social protection services, with priority given to:

- Households (HH) living below the poverty lines/recipients of the state benefit for poor HH (Ui-Buloogo Komok);
- Single parent-headed HH;
- Households with members with disabilities;
- Unemployed (officially registered) individuals.

Total sample

1,497



44% 56%

Sampling

Sample by modality



18% Cash based transfers



18% Food for Asset



18% Food for Training



18% Climate insurance

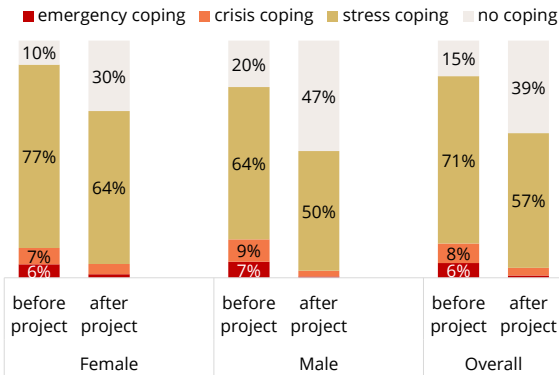


27% Non-participants

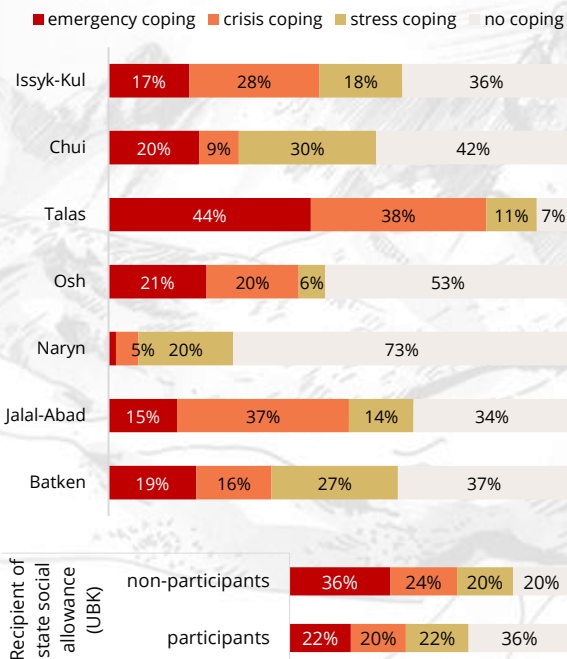
Over 300 women and men in 25 focus-groups discussions (FGD)

Livelihood Coping Strategies

Food security has improved, with fewer households relying on crisis and emergency strategies, yet with a notable share of stress coping strategies. Among WFP project participants, the most common coping approaches are - borrowing money **26%**, using savings **24%**, and depleting family reserves **24%**. Livelihood Coping Strategies are household coping strategies for food or financial shortages. **Stress** strategies weaken future stability, **crisis** strategies reduce productivity, and **emergency** measures—the most severe— further erode resilience.



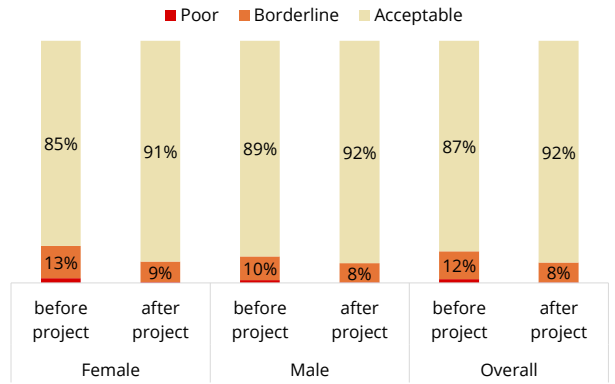
The analysis highlights regional variations in coping strategies. **Naryn** has the highest percentage of households **not relying on coping strategies (73%)**. In contrast, Chui (30%) and Batken (27%) have higher proportions of households using stress coping strategies. Crisis strategies are most prevalent in Talas (38%) and Jalal-Abad (37%), while emergency strategies are most commonly used in Batken (19%).



Households receiving state social allowances used a mix of strategies (stress-22%, emergency-22%, crisis-20%).

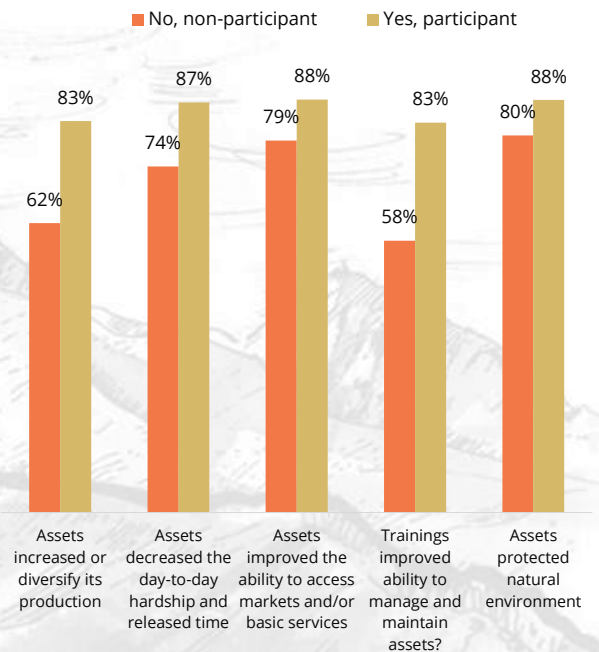
Food Consumption Score

The Food Consumption Score (FCS) indicates a notable improvement in food security. The proportion of households having 'Acceptable' food consumption increased, rising from **85%** to **91%** for females and from **89%** to **92%** for males. Meanwhile, the proportions in the 'Poor' and 'Borderline' categories decreased.



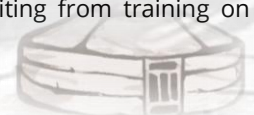
Asset Benefit Index

Asset Benefit Index (ABI) - Community members report significant benefits from assets constructed or rehabilitated with WFP support. Specifically, **83%** have seen **enhanced production**, **87%** have experienced **reduction in hardships**, and **88%** have gained better access to services



"Agriculture has become stable, grass grows better, and livestock is well-provisioned with food for the winter" (Naryn, FGD)

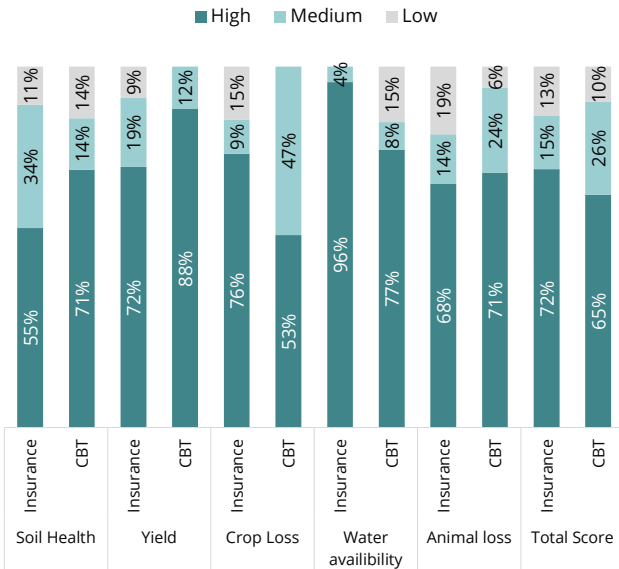
WFP activities promote sustainable development, with **83%** of respondents benefiting from training on asset maintenance.



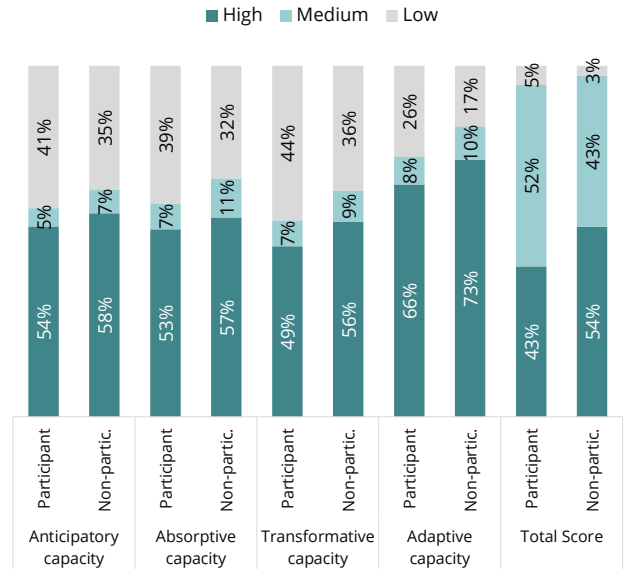
Climate Resilience Capacity

Adaptation to climate change is vital as extreme weather events threaten households' safety and well-being, while rising recovery costs and food prices challenge family budgets. **Climate adaptation and resilience scores** measure how WFP's capacity building, climate insurance and cash-based asset creation help vulnerable households improve soil health, crop yield, and water availability, boosting their ability to adapt to climate impacts.

Climate Adaptation Benefit Score (CABS)



Climate Resilience Capacity Score (CRCS)



WFP programmes have generally had a **positive impact on soil health, crop yields and water availability**. However, challenges remain in areas such as crop and animal losses. Most participants appreciated the overall benefits to agriculture, indicating the programmes' effectiveness.

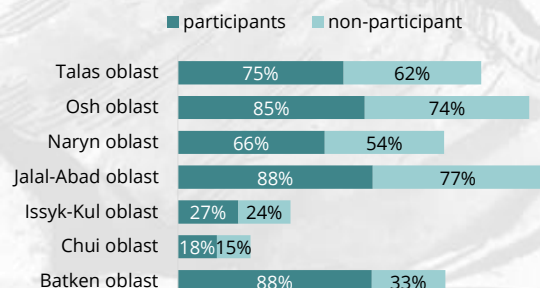
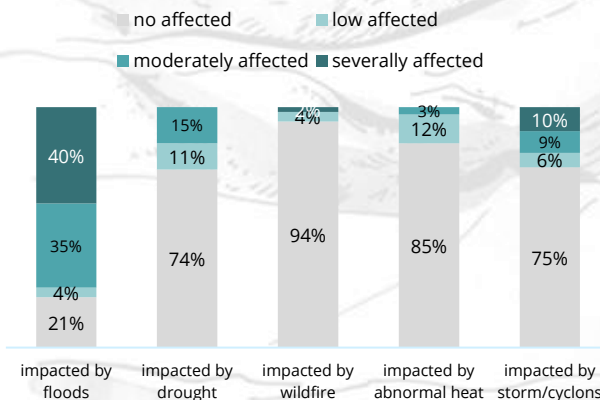
Participants tend to rate their capacities slightly lower in some areas compared to non-participants, particularly in transformative and adaptive capacities. Non-participants have higher ratings in the high category for most capacities, indicating they may perceive themselves as more resilient in these areas. A greater percentage of non-participants rate their overall resilience as high compared to participants.

Environmental Benefit Index (EBI)

In rural communities, families endure **floods, droughts, storms and harsh winters**, making resilience essential for survival. **Floods** were the most significant climate shock. Among WFP project participants, **40% reported being severely affected**, while 35% reported being moderately affected by floods. Through the WFP's asset creation initiatives, communities build resilience and also contribute to environmental improvement, paving the way for a more sustainable future.

The Environmental Benefit Index measures how communities perceive the positive environmental changes brought about by rehabilitated and newly built assets. For **households engaged in WFP activities the impact is positive; their EBI stands at 51%, higher** than non-participants at 49%. This marks an increase of 12 percentage points from 39% in comparison with 2023, indicating a **growing adoption of sustainable practices**.

"Planting trees on slopes and along channels helps hold the soil in place and prevent its erosion." (Talas, FGD, 2024)



Financing directions

A total of **12 %** of households had loans taken out for production purposes.

- **Men are significantly more likely to take loans for productive purpose (65 %)**, which may be related to their dominant position in entrepreneurship or agricultural activities.
- **Women are less likely to take such loans (39%) for productive purposes**, which may be explained by social or economic barriers (e.g. lower access to financial services, restrictions on property rights, less participation in productive activities).

Investment Capacity Index

The population of the WFP project impact area has limited opportunities to accumulate resources. Only 35% of participants had savings at the time of the survey.

WFP uses the Investment Capacity Index (ICI) to assess the financial capacity of targeted households to withstand economic vulnerability, climate variability, and extreme weather impacts annually.

Findings for 2024 show that project participants have investment capacity with average household savings of **USD 450**, **loans accessed USD 1,140**, and insurance payouts of **USD 39**. Thus, the overall **average ICI** for project participants in 2024 is **USD 542**.

A total of **17 %** of households applied for a loan from microfinance organizations. While this figure is significantly lower than that of banks, it indicates the important role of microfinance, especially in cases where access to bank loans is limited. Over half of the households surveyed keep their savings at home, which may indicate limited access to formal financial services, low levels of financial literacy or a preference for more accessible ways to manage savings. **40%** of households keep their savings in banks.

Engagement in income generation (EIG) as a result of trainings

WFP training sessions enhanced employment opportunities, particularly for women. **35%** of females and **23%** of males are engaged in income-generating activities; Additionally, **9%** of women and **7%** of men found employment outside the home, while **5%** of women secured **permanent jobs**, compared to none of the men. Furthermore, **7%** of women and **6%** of men **started their own income-generating activities**, highlighting the program's role in fostering economic opportunities, especially for women.



USD 450
Average savings



USD 1,140
Average loan

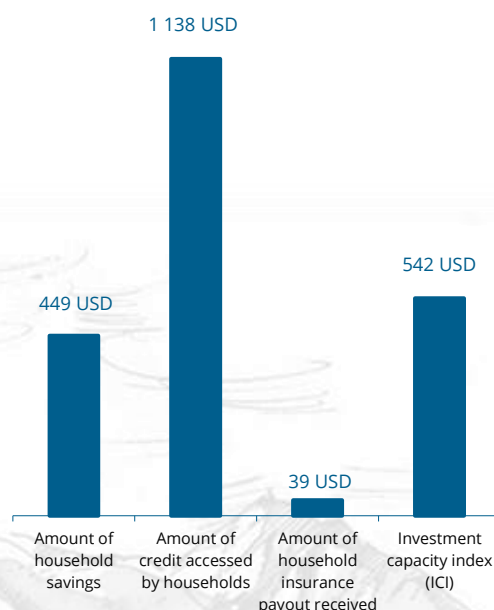


84 %
from banks



17 %
from microfinance organisations

"There are those who do not know how to manage money. They spend it, and then again it is not enough." (Naryn, women, FGD)



"When we receive food products from the project, it became possible to spend the saved money on restoring the farm" (Osh, FGD)

For more information:

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