Annex 1 (as of February 2019)

**Food Security and Nutrition Programme in the Kyrgyz Republic**

**for 2019-2023**

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**Introduction**

Food security is one the main determinations for ensuring national security of the country, and factor for preservation of its statehood and sovereignty. The Law of the Kyrgyz Republic on “Food security”, # 183 as of 4 August 2008, establishes major areas for ensuring food security of the Kyrgyz Republic.

Taking into account the high priority of food security and nutrition issues, the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic took a decision to develop a Food Security and Nutrition Program for 2019-2023 (hereinafter referred to as the Program). The Program takes into account the objectives of the National Development Strategy of the Kyrgyz Republic for 2018-2040 and “Unity, Trust and Creation” Program of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic, and is directly aimed at implementing the provisions related to ensuring food security and good nutrition.

The Kyrgyz Republic is a participant in the Global 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development up to 2030 and has committed itself to achievement of 17 goals, including Goal # 2, “End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture”. Herewith, ensuring food security and improvement of nutrition centers around the rest 16 goals. This has required inclusion of relevant objectives and indicators of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in this Program.

The Program determines the requirements and restrictions that must be integrated into the programs for the development of branches of economic and social sectors. Results of their activities on ensuring food security should be considered as the most important part of the policy pursued by the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic for improving health and well-being of citizens of the country, their capability to work productively, and to develop culturally and spiritually.

1. **Assessment of current situation and major challenges to food security and nutrition in the Kyrgyz Republic**

The assessment of food security of the Kyrgyz Republic showed the following:

1. The level of meeting physiological needs in the components and the energy content of the diet. According to the NSC KR[[1]](#footnote-1), in 2017 the average daily energy value of food was above the minimum norm (2101 kcal) only among the population of the two most income-rich quintile groups. Average consumption of proteins and fats above the minimum norm was observed in the population of only the fifth quintile group. Nutrition above the established level as per all three estimated indicators is obtained only by citizens from the fifth, the richest quintile group (1 million 249 thousand people).

In the context of the regions, the most unfavorable situation is in Chui oblast, and the cities of Bishkek and Osh (2, 2 million people). In terms of age groups, the most unfavorable nutritional situation is among children aged 1-3 years old (423 thousand people), among which the average level of calories is lower than the minimum by 23%, proteins - by 45% and fats - by 40%.

2. Availability of main types of food products in the diet is determined by ratio between actual consumption of basic food products and the consumption norms. Regarding this indicator, availability of meat and meat products was 62%, fruits and berries - 31%, eggs - 43%, sugar - 84%. Availability of other basic food products is sufficient.

3. The volume of strategic and operational food stocks in accordance with normative requirements is determined by the sufficiency of grain stocks in the state material reserve. Volume and range of products for storage is regulated by the State Material Reserves Fund in accordance with the legislation.

4. Economic affordability of food resources is determined as the share of total spending for nutrition in total household spending and comprised 43% in 2017. There has been a decline from 49% in 2012. This indicator varies from 51,0% for the first quintile group, to 37,0% – in the fifth group (national average is 42,9%)[[2]](#footnote-2).

5. Indicator of disparity for food expenditures by social groups (ratio of cost of food between the fifth and the first quintile groups) in 2017 was equal to 2,05. At the same time, this indicator has slightly changed from 2012 to 2017, from 1, 92 (in 2013) to 2, 08 (in 2016).

For 2012-2017, in the economy of the Kyrgyz Republic there was witnessed a number of positive trends on improvement of access of population to food products: alleviation of extreme poverty level; reduction of unemployment level from 8,4 % to 6,9%; reduction of overall poverty level from 38% to 25,6%; economic growth, in average by 4% per year; growth of real incomes of population for more than 20% and rise in their purchasing power; stabilization of inflation, including inflation in relation to food products, average value of which comprised 2,6% for the analyzed period; 70% growth of real amount of monthly benefit for low-income families with children.

Despite these facts, currently average per capita household expenditures for food are lower than the established minimum standards. Weak purchasing power of the population does not ensure sufficient economic access of the greater part of population to quality nutrition.

6. Food independence by separate product is determined as ratio between import of individual product in kind and its internal market capacity. In 2017, the threshold of 20% was exceeded for bread and bakery products (46%), vegetable oil (68%), sugar (29%), fruits and berries (31%).

7. Assessment of conformity of locally produced and imported food products against safety indicators is performed in terms of compliance of actual data with requirements of technical regulations, that are existing in the Kyrgyz Republic. Laboratory capacity for evaluation and confirmation of conformity of products is not sufficient for meeting the existing needs. For raising awareness of manufacturers, it is necessary to provide assistance with introduction of HACCP (Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points) by trained consultants.

As of June 2018, Unified Register of Certification Authorities and Testing Laboratories (Centers) of EAEC (hereinafter referred to as Unified Register of EAEC), comprises 13 certification authorities and 34 testing laboratories of the Kyrgyz Republic, accredited according to international standards ISO/IEC 17065 and ISO/IEC 17025, respectively. To avoid confirmation of quality of local products from becoming technical barriers to trade, the country should seek international recognition of national quality system.

8. In the course of implementation of measures on achievement of FSNP goals, there was noted the weakness of interagency coordination, the weak role of regional authorities and local self-governance bodies (LSG), and issues with integration of activities with development partners, engagement of business community and civil society.

**2. Major challenges and barriers to food security and nutrition in the Kyrgyz Republic**

Food security and nutrition (FSN) in the Kyrgyz Republic is ensured by the aссessibility and affordability of sufficient quantity of food, and quality and safety of food for all groups of the population.

**2.1. Major challenges to provision of basic food products and food security in the Kyrgyz Republic are as follows:**

1. The growth rate of agriculture in the Kyrgyz Republic is lower than the growth rate of the entire economy with a relatively high population growth rate. For the period of 2012-2017, the entire economy grew by 30,8%, and the increase in agricultural production comprised only 13,9% (in actual prices). The dynamic growth of the population requires adequate growth for productions of basic agricultural food products and greater productive capacity.
2. The Kyrgyz Republic did not achieve food sovereignty for domestic production of sugar and confectionary products, vegetable oil, fruits and berries, bread and bakery products.
3. Overall, in the Kyrgyz Republic there was noted an insufficient consumption of meat and meat products (in 2017 the rate was 62% out of average physiological norm). Apart from that, there is an insufficient consumption of fruits and berries (31% out of average physiological norm), eggs (43% out of average physiological norm), sugar and confectionery products (84% out of average physiological norm).
4. Low competitiveness and productivity of agricultural production, low prevalence of various effective forms of industrial integration of rural producers (cooperatives, clusters) is one of the reasons for inadequate production of basic food products.
5. The current state of the key natural resources for agricultural production needs stabilization and continuous improvement for the sustainability of agricultural production. In 2016, the total area of ​​arable land was 1205,3 thousand hectares (6% of the total area of ​​the entire territory). For the period of 2003-2016, the change of arable land indicator per permanent resident dropped from 0,25 ha to 0,2 ha, including irrigated land from 0,16 to 0,13 ha. According to the cadastre of land ameliorative condition (2016), 85% of arable land was in good condition, 6% in satisfactory condition, 9% in unsatisfactory condition – 9%**[[3]](#footnote-3)**.

The total amount of water resources consumed in Kyrgyzstan is between 10 and 12 billion cubic meters per year. Water losses during transportation from the source to the water consumer reach 1,7-2, 3 billion cubic meters.

**2.2. Major challenges to availability of food products for the population of the Kyrgyz Republic are as follows:**

1. The share of the economically inactive population is growing (from 29, 1% in 2012 to 32, 9% in 2017) mainly due to women of reproductive age who join the category of unpaid family workers and persons engaged in personal subsidiary farming.
2. The current system of social benefits for low-income families with children has a number of significant shortcomings, such as the fact, that some families receive benefits for 10 years or more, although they have significant labor potential and are capable of providing themselves with food independently.
3. The share of incomes of the population due to personal subsidiary farms comprises 13%. Low real wages in individual types of economic activity (agriculture, healthcare, education, etc.), uncontrolled and unregulated labor migration of the population, insufficient efficiency of social protection and social insurance systems, in its turn, restrict access of the population to food products. The greater share of the first quintile group, most suffering from low caloric and unbalanced nutrition, are in most cases, people with disabilities, families that lost breadwinner, large families, and rural landless people.
4. The unresolved problems in organization of rational nutrition provided to schoolchildren, legalization of the best practices in the use of products from school gardens and vegetable-gardens, contributions from the public, monitoring, evaluation and regulation, as well as control over the quality of nutrition.
5. Lack of modern warehousing and logistical infrastructure, coherent mechanisms and clear algorithms for arranging activities in the case of food shocks, that cause restriction of access to basic food products due to rise in prices for them, leads to risks of unpredictable increase in the number of vulnerable population.

6. High volatility of food prices, caused by the rising cost of agricultural products, low yields in the country or in the world, restricting or stopping food imports by exporting countries, can significantly reduce access to food products by the country’s population.

**2.3. Major challenges to improvement of quality of nutrition are as follows:**

1.High prevalence of iron deficiency anemia among the population (37,8% of pregnant women and 34,2% of non-pregnant women, 42,6% of children), latent iron deficiency (41% of women), folate deficiency (42% of non-pregnant women), iodine deficiency disorders (61,6% of pregnant women and 43,1% of school-age children), overweight and obesity (35,7% of women and 9% of children of the first 5 years of age), underweight (7,3% of women and 18% of girls 15-19 years old).

1. Stunting among 13% of children under 5 years old (including 13,8% of boys and 12% of girls, 11,8% of urban children and 13,4% of rural children).
2. High content of trans fatty acids (TFA) in the diet of the population of the Kyrgyz Republic. According to a joint random survey of the Ministry of Health of the Kyrgyz Republic and WHO (2016), from one average portion of food from the catering network, residents of the country receive from 70,8 to 170,4% of TFA and 82,9-99,0% - of salt of the recommended maximum daily intake.
3. For implementation of direct nutrition interventions, there is no commitment at the political level for promoting supplementation of iron supplements with folic acid for pregnant women, therapeutic nutrition for children with severe exhaustion, procurement of multi-micronutrient powders to enrich homemade food for children aged 6-24 months.

5. Insufficient awareness about the principles of a healthy diet, the consequences of inadequate or excessive food, and harmful components of food significantly contribute to the prevalence of nutrition disorders. Education on nutrition issues is not recognized as a priority in educational organizations of a non-medical profile (school, university, colleges/lyceums).

6. After the entry of Kyrgyzstan into the EAEC, many technical regulations (TR) on food products safety have lost relevance (for example, the TR on safety of fortified flour, infants’ food, iodized salt), and from 12 August 2017, TR CU (customs union) 021/2011 “On Safety of food products” became operational. However, the prohibition to import unfortified flour, regulated by the Law of the Kyrgyz Republic “On Baking Flour Fortification”, is not legal according to the requirements of the EAEC and WTO provisions on free movement of goods, it is also necessary to update the developed standards for fortified flour.

7. Problems in the provision of clean drinking water and wastewater disposal (sanitation/waste water systems) from settlements remain a significant threat to the provision of high-quality food due to microbial and chemical contamination of tap water.

**2.4. Major challenges to ensuring safety of food products are as follows:**

1. The majority of food producers in Kyrgyz Republic are not ready to fulfill the requirements of the EAEC technical regulations, including those on food safety, due to weak awareness of HACCP system, ISO 22000: 2005 standard, Codex Alimentarius, and other international standards and lack of consistency in increasing the level of their knowledge.
2. Food safety control system on the principle of safety at all stages of the value chain, requires amendments in regulatory documents.

1. Lack of tools for identification and utilization of falsified and illegal products of imported and domestic production.

4. Insufficient number of qualified personnel with knowledge of international standards for food safety management.

**2.5. Problems with management of food security and nutrition are as follows:**

1. It is necessary to improve normative legal base, regulating the FSN issues targeted at enhancement of management of food security (FS) in the Kyrgyz Republic, increasing effectiveness of monitoring and evaluation system. The existing system of indicators for evaluation of FS cannot comprehensively reflect actual situation with FSN.

1. Ensuring food security is the intersectoral objective, where all authorities on national and local levels should be engaged, that are directly or indirectly address the issues related to health and quality of nutrition, issues of social support to vulnerable groups of population, issues of ensuring safety of food products, issues of availability and stability of agricultural production for domestic market and issues of timely and full financing of food security program.

1. Addressing FSN issues requires effective interaction, high level of coordination and integration of activities of state authorities and all stakeholders on local and regional levels, including donor funded projects and development programs, and civil society.
2. It is necessary to take into account the obligations of Kyrgyzstan related to the country's entry into the EAEC, international treaties, as well as obligations for achieving the SDGs. In the future, participation of the Kyrgyz Republic in the EAEC should reduce the level of risks for food security and nutrition during food crisis. It is also important to protect the domestic food market within the framework of the regulations adopted in the EAEC.

5. Insufficient information and education activities, targeted at all groups of population in the KR, lack of research activities required for increasing effectiveness of interventions on ensuring food security and nutrition in the Kyrgyz Republic.

# Strategic objective and policy areas for ensuring food security and nutrition in the Kyrgyz Republic

The strategic objective of food security and nutrition of the Kyrgyz Republic is quality improvement of nutrition of the population through stable ensuring availability, accessibility and requirements for safety of food products.

**The key policy areas for achieving the strategic goal are:**

1. Improvement of availability of food for consumption by population
2. Ensuring food aсcessibility/affordability for the population
3. Improving nutrition status of the population
4. Increasing safety of food products
5. Establishment of effective system for management, monitoring and evaluation of FSNP.

The extent of attainment of goals by 2023 is determined by system of indicators listed in the Matrix of indicators for monitoring and evaluation of implementation results.

# 4. Policy and measures in the area of food increase for internal consumption

**The goal of the area:** Growth of volumes and increasing the stability of domestic agricultural production of basic foodstuffs (staple foods), increasing stability of food supplies to the domestic market.

The implementation of measures to achieve the goal will be carried in the framework of the following priorities:

* Stimulation and support of the national agricultural production of staple foods (basic foodstuffs).
* Improving the management of state food reserves, increasing the sustainability of the domestic food market.

* 1. **Objectives and measures**

**Priority 1. Stimulating and supporting domestic agricultural production of basic foodstuffs (staples)**

**Objective 1.1**. **Stimulating growth of agricultural production of basic foodstuffs (staples).**

To analyze the current state and identification measures required for production of basic food products, there will be developed recommendations based on a qualitative forecast of the balance of the domestic market for staples, which takes into account the main factors of influence, as well as data from monitoring and forecasting of future harvest in Kyrgyzstan.

There will be a promotion of the agricultural production of basic foodstuffs, domestic production of which is not sufficient (bread and bakery products, fruits and berries, sugar, vegetable oil, eggs) using the existing agricultural financing instruments, including concessional lending.

For increase of production volumes of fruits and berries, there will be developed and implemented departmental target program, aimed at creation of conditions for promotion of horticulture.

Increasing the availability of seeds, development of reprocessing plants, and usage of new irrigated lands will allow improving domestic production of basic foodstuffs.

Creation of mechanisms for displacement of basic foodstuffs from the regions with excessive production to the regions with insufficient production will allow increasing the availability of basic foodstuffs in the regions of the country.

**Objective 1.2. Increasing sustainability of agriculture**.

Improving the efficiency of pasture use and water resources requires improving the management mechanisms for using these resources and increasing access to these resources for all groups of the population, including socially vulnerable groups of the society.

Intensification of production by updating the pedigree composition of the commercial herd in livestock and poultry farming, use of elite seeds by farmers is the factor in favor of agricultural sustainability growth.

Support to rural producers should be interlinked with measures on integrating them into various forms of integration for growth of potential and economic efficiency. The cooperation of small farms should be supported to solve the problems of increasing their profitability and improving nutrition for family members.

**Priority 2. Improving management of public food reserves, increasing stability of the domestic market of food products**

**Objective 1.3**. **Increasing the quality of food stocks monitoring**

There will be made an assessment of the possibility and recommendation on expanding the range of food products stored in the state material reserves system.

**Objective 1.4.** **Ensuring sustainability of foreign trade for a long-term food supply to the domestic food market**

The policy of ensuring a balanced external trade of food products should take into account the factor of participation of the Kyrgyz Republic in the EAEC, and the possibility to import the required products from other countries, which should reduce the risks for availability of food products irrespective of food imports, regardless of harvesting capacity, economic, political and other internal factors.

# Policy and measures in the area of ensuring food availability for the population

**Goal of the policy area**: Establishing socio-economic conditions for ensuring stable economic and physical access of the population to food according to the standards set up by the state.

Implementation of measures for achieving the goal will be carried out in view of the following priorities:

* Increasing the accessibility of food for population with focus on socially vulnerable groups of population;
* Forming a system for providing food assistance to the population in the conditions of food shocks.

**5.1. Objectives and measures**

**Priority 1**. **Increasing the accessibility of food for population with focus on socially vulnerable groups of population.**

**Objective 2.1.** **Providing guaranteed access to food for vulnerable groups of population**

To address this issue, special attention will be paid to implementation of measures aimed at providing priority support to the most neediest segments of the population, who are not able to carry out income-generating activities for buying or producing food products.

**Objective 2.2.** **Stimulating low-income families be engaged in profitable self-employment/income-generating activities relating to foodstuffs.**

Based on the performance analysis of programs piloted by development partners, a system of measures will be developed to provide comprehensive social assistance to low-income families.

**Objective 2.3. Improvement of school nutrition**

The system of school nutrition will be enhanced, which encompasses changes to school nutrition standards, application of effective mechanisms for implementing forms of organizing nutrition using public-private partnerships.

**Priority 2. Formation of a system for ensuring food aid to the population in the context of food shocks**

**Objective 2.4.** **Development of conceptual mechanisms for providing food to population in conditions of food shocks**

For overcoming such risks, analysis will be carried out and conceptual mechanisms will be developed for providing food assistance to the population during periods of food shocks.

**Objective 2.5**. **Improvement of the state regulation of domestic food prices**

There will be developed a set of government measures aimed at stabilizing the prices, which will be applied in the event of a threat of a significant increase in food prices, which will allow preserving the population’s access to food.

# Policy and measures in the area of improving nutrition status of the population

**Goal of the policy area:** Ensure the right of every person to healthy nutrition at all stages of his/her life cycle and evidence-based information on nutrition for improved knowledge about healthy nutrition and eating behavior (practice).

The implementation of activities to achieve the goal will be carried out within the following priorities:

* Expanding and supporting favorable policy conditions for improved nutrition
* Enhancing the quality and coverage of nutrition-specific interventions
* Strengthening human resource capacity and building sustainable public demand for healthy foods
  1. **Objectives and measures**

**Priority 1**. **Expanding and maintaining an enabling policy environment for improved nutrition**

**Objective 3.1. Development of guiding principles of healthy nutrition based on existing products and sustainable development**

For effective coordination of efforts of all stakeholders, guiding principles should be developed taking into account the food products that are actually available in the country.

**Objective 3.2.** **Improving the quality of nutrition through implementation of pilot projects.**

Within the scope of this objective, pilot projects will make a functional analysis in the area of ​​ensuring food security and improved nutrition, and develop regional plan for implementation of FSNP, successful experience of which will be shared for wide use by other countries.

**Objective 3.3. Improving government regulation in the area of using healthy nutrition**.

Kyrgyzstan should protect the interests of the population, given the high prevalence of certain diseases, related to nutrition, through establishing of a regulatory framework (law) to ban or substantially restrict advertising of high-calorie foods due to saturated fats, trans fats, sugar and artificial baby foods for replacement of breast milk.

**Objective 3.4**. **Establishing mechanisms for programmatic financing of nutrition-related activities and financial reporting system on expenditures for nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive interventions and dissemination of information.**

For improving nutritional status of the population, it is necessary to ensure targeted funding of nutrition interventions and its effective use. For attainment of this objective, the program envisages:

-Analysis of budget allocated for nutrition and food security, as well as reporting on expenditures for nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive interventions and dissemination of information at all levels

- Undertaking regular monitoring of financial expenditures (budgetary and extra-budgetary) allocated for nutrition and food security interventions.

**Priority 2.** **Improving quality and coverage by specific nutrition activities**

**Objective 3.5**. **Improving nutrition interventions through standard medical services**

To reduce the burden of micronutrient deficiency and achieve SDG nutrition indicators by 2025, the Kyrgyz Republic should increase implementation of nutrition-specific interventions among children under 5 years old by 2.5 times, and among women of reproductive age by 7 times. To achieve it, is required to:

* Continue supplementation to pregnant women and begin supplementation to breastfeeding mothers and women of childbearing age, including adolescent girls, with iron and folic acid
* Strengthen activities on promotion of exclusive breastfeeding, and prolonged breastfeeding
* Procure therapeutic food for children with severe undernourishment and introduce WHO / UNICEF guidelines for management of children with moderate nutritional disorders at a community level

**Objective 3.6**. **Prevention of infectious diseases (poisoning, parasitic diseases) and non-infectious diseases (NCDs) related to nutrition: overweight and obesity, type 2 diabetes, heart and blood vessels diseases.**

Activities to reduce prevalence of infectious and non-infectious diseases should be focused on building, reconstruction and modernization of drinking water supply and wastewater systems, sanitary facilities in settlements of the republic, strengthening human resource capacity in the field of water supply and sanitation, promotion of hygiene rules, healthy lifestyle, taking measures to limit the use of unhealthy food and salt by the population, creating epidemiological surveillance over the prevalence and incidence of infectious and non-communicable diseases.

**Objective 3.7**. **Establishing a register of neural tube defects**

High prevalence of folate deficiency among women due to inadequate intake with food causes an increase in congenital malformations of the brain and spinal cord in children.

**Priority 3**. **Strengthening human resource capacity and generating sustainable demand for healthy food products among the population**

**Objective 3.8**. **Strengthening human resource capacity in nutrition and food security**

Teacher training, retraining of nutritionists for training / disseminating information about healthy nutrition, consequences of unhealthy diets and ensuring food security at the household level and through educational organizations (preschool facilities, schools, colleges, universities) will make a significant contribution to the awareness and change in the eating habits of the population.

**Objective 3.9. Active engaging of the population in addressing issues of healthy nutrition and informing the population about dietary diversification, adequate infant feeding practices, fortified flour and salt**

This objective will be achieved through a broad discussion of national research results on causal relationships between eating behavior and human health; public opinion poll on food habits and health status with a broad discussion of their results; documenting positive experiences and their dissemination, arranging interactive programs on TV and radio will contribute not only to raising awareness of population, but also their responsibility for their health and nutrition.

# Policy and measures in the area of improving safety of food products

**Goal of the policy area**: Establishing a food safety system at all stages of the food chain aimed at eliminating the risk for life and health of a person.

Implementation of measures to achieve the goal will be carried out within the framework of the following priorities:

* Ensuring food safety at all stages of production-sales and distribution food value added chain
* Informing all participants in the value added chain and the population, developing education/training and food safety science

**7.1. Objectives and measures**

**Priority 1.** **Ensuring food safety at all stages of the food value chain**

**Objective 4.1. Improving food safety management system**

It is necessary to ensure interdepartmental coordination and interaction between government agencies for improving control over food safety.

For improving the national food safety system, it is planned to develop regulatory documents on monitoring of food products, subject to state and veterinary-sanitary supervision; regulatory documents on oversight and control over displacement (transportation) of animals, and raw materials of animal origin.

**Objective 4.2. Improving food safety control infrastructure throughout the value added chain (from farm to plate)**

Food safety will be ensured through improving the system for fulfilling the requirements of the EAEC Technical Regulations at each stage of the food supply chain, increasing the efficiency of an integrated unified traceability system for animal products and products of plant origin in accordance with FAO standards, WHO and OIE guidelines.

There will be introduced electronic mapping of the foci of spread of harmful, especially dangerous pests and quarantine objects, as well as highly dangerous animal diseases and animal burial sites.

**Objective 4.3. Protection of the market from falsified products**

It is required to review and amend regulations on control of falsified food and introduce the definition of “falsified product”. Amendments are required to be introduced in the Law on Consumer Rights Protection regarding increasing responsibility during production, sales, transportation, throughout the entire value chain and it is necessary to adopt a regulatory act on control (supervision) of the circulation of food products in the Kyrgyz Republic.

**Priority 2**. **Informing all participants in the value chain and the population, development of education / training and science of food safety**

**Objective 4.4**. **Training of qualified specialists, priority development of scientific research in the field of technology, and food safety**

It is necessary to strengthen training of qualified specialists on innovative technologies in the field of production, storage and marketing of food products, principles of ensuring food safety based on international standards.

It is required to strengthen the priority development of research in the field of nutrition of the population and develop production technologies aimed at improving the quality and safety of agricultural raw materials and food products.

**Objective 4.5. Improving the system of informing**

Awareness about food safety requirements among all participants in the value chain will be achieved through improving the system of information, education and providing recommendations to stakeholders through strengthening information campaigns on food safety.

# Policy and measures in the area of establishing an effective food security management system and the food security and nutrition program monitoring and evaluation system

**Objective 5.1.** **Improvement of regulatory framework for food security and nutrition in the Kyrgyz Republic**.

It is necessary to improve the legislative basis for FSNP through substantiation and strengthening of the management mechanisms.

It is planned to ensure unity and consistency with this Program of all goals, objectives and indicators of sectoral /sub- sectoral development programs on issues of FSN ensuring. It is important to achieve an increase in the targeted nature of financing the Food Security and Nutrition Program (FSNP), and expand the application of the principles of program budgeting.

Monitoring and evaluation system changes will be done through:

* Improvement of traceability of food products availability and accessibility of food products through enhancement and updating of the existing system of indicators
* Introduction of new monitoring and evaluation indicators on quality of nutrition and safety of food products
* Introduction of quantitative indicators, disaggregated by sex, social status and regions
* Improvement of integration and synchronization of indicators of this Program and SDG indicators.

**Objective 5.2**. **Increasing operational efficacy of authorities on national and regional levels on implementation of Food Security and Nutrition Program**.

Monitoring and evaluation of FSNP implementation will contribute to efficient and reliable evaluation of the current situation, identification of issues and achievements and development of effective plans for follow-up on FSNP.

Program indicators will be integrated into the monitoring and evaluation of FSNP.

It is planned to undertake measures on improvement of coordination and integration of activities of authorities on national and local levels with all stakeholders, including international organizations, donors, civil sector for increasing the effectiveness of interventions on implementation of the Program, using various tools.

# Implementation risks

Implementation of this Program is associated with the following implementation risks:

- **Political and legal risks** for implementation of the Program are associated with the traditionally slow change of the institutional management scheme, which will require appropriate legal decisions and resolution of complex objectives of changing the status of food security issues for each government agency. In addition, there is a risk of a formal change of the institutional scheme, which does not ensure a high level of coordination of government actions in solving the objectives of this Program.

The most acute inefficiency of the institutional scheme can occur in regions with less resources and less trained personnel for ensuring implementation of FSNP.

For mitigation of this risk, measures will be taken on improving the quality of monitoring for implementation of this Program and strengthening the role of the Council on Food Security and Nutrition in terms of control over addressing the objectives related to ensuring FSNP.

**- Financial risks** for the implementation of the Program are specified by the high cost of activities and projects proposed for implementation given quite limited budgetary resources. Increased dependence on external financing makes the Program’s performance highly dependent on the participation of donors and development institutions in its financing. To mitigate this risk, measures will be implemented to deepen interaction with donor organizations.

**- Force majeure circumstances** are a risk for implementation of the Program, which, if they arise, will lead to the need to implement mobilization scenarios for ensuring FSNP. This may be related to unfavorable natural and climatic conditions for agricultural production, as well as a likelihood of spread of plant pests, lack of irrigation water. There is also the likelihood of a massive plant disease, the spread of plant pests, the source of which can be neighboring states.

# The extent and sources of financing

For achieving the objectives of the Action Plan of the Food Security and Nutrition Program in the Kyrgyz Republic for 2019-2023 (hereinafter referred to as the Plan), all available sources of funding will be mobilized.

The total cost of the implementation of the Plan (the requirement in financing the activities and the objectives) for the period from 2019 to 2023 amounts to 7487,9 million Kyrgyz soms.

Opportunities in general are estimated at the level of 873,8 million Kyrgyz soms (12%). The part not covered by financing amounts to 6614,3 million Kyrgyz soms or 88%. The confirmed funding of the Plan’s activities (873, 7 million Kyrgyz soms) is made up of:

* + - Funds from the republican budget – 64, 4 million Kyrgyz soms (other current expenses necessary for work, and remuneration of labor of employees of state organizations involved in the implementation of the Action Plan of the Program).
    - Funds of local budgets – 56,0 million Kyrgyz soms (other current expenses necessary for work, and remuneration of labor of employees of municipal organizations involved in implementation of the Action plan of the Program)
    - Funds provided from other sources, including the donor community -753, 2 million Kyrgyz soms (funds from development partners, private companies involved in the implementation of the Action Plan of the Program).

The amount of confirmed funding from the state budget represents the estimated cost of labor costs for employees of various ministries and departments, local governments who will participate in implementation of the Plan.

The missing amount of financing (6614,3 million Kyrgyz soms), necessary for the implementation of all the Plan’s activities in full scope, is made up of:

* Funds from the republican – 4258,9 million Kyrgyz soms
* Funds from other sources, including the donor community - 2355,3 million Kyrgyz soms

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# Glossary

1. **Safety of food products** - a state of reasonable assurance that food products under normal conditions of their use are not harmful and do not represent danger to health.
2. **Healthy** (correct, balanced, rational) **nutrition** is nutrition that promotes growth, normal human development, health promotion and disease prevention, which satisfies the daily requirement of the human body for energy, nutrients, microelements and vitamins, as well as maintains an optimal balance between them.
3. **Excessive nutrition** - excessive consumption of food, which contributes to the occurrence of pathological conditions and diseases.
4. **Quality of food products** - a set of characteristics of food products that can meet the needs of a human being in food under normal conditions of their use.
5. **Quintile group** - a group containing 20% of the population
6. **Intersectoral cooperation -** coordination of actions of various governmental bodies and other stakeholders on carrying out activities that ensure the achievement of a common goal in FSNP.
7. **Micronutrient deficiency** is a disease or pathological condition caused by insufficient intake of microelements and vitamins by a human body.
8. **Stunting** is impaired growth of children, which reflects a delay in linear development as a result of inadequate food intake over a long period or the result of a chronic disease (chronic eating disorder).
9. **Enriched (fortified) food products** - food products supplemented by one or more essential ingredients (vitamins, minerals, proteins, amino or fatty acids) and other substances not originally present in it or present in insufficient quantities, added in order to prevent the disease.
10. **Food products** are products of animal, vegetable, mineral, artificial or biotechnological origin in natural, processed or manufactured form, which are intended for human consumption.
11. **The right to adequate food** – it is when every person, at all times, has the physical and economic access to adequate nutrition.
12. **The food part of the subsistence minimum** - the minimum set of food products, with an energy value of 2100 kcal / day per person, necessary to maintain health and livelihoods, comprises 65% of the subsistence minimum.
13. **Food shock** - a spike in food prices, reducing access to food for a significant part of a country's population
14. **The subsistence minimum** is the cost of a standard set of food, non-food goods, services and expenses for mandatory payments and fees that meets the human needs at the minimum acceptable level and ensures their vital activities.
15. **Disease prevention** - activities aimed at preventing or reducing the occurrence and spread of diseases or stopping their course, preventing relapse and complications.
16. **Sanitary and epidemiological requirements** are the criteria for safety or harmlessness for a person of environmental factors, sanitary hygienic and anti-epidemic requirements for ensuring favorable conditions for his/her life, established in regulations.
17. **The food safety management system** is a set of measures at the production site ensuring safety of food to be consumed.
18. **Socially vulnerable segments of the population** - the population living below the poverty line.
19. **Labor potential of the family** is a cumulative characteristic of the family, which determines the boundaries of participation in the work activities of each family member in accordance with age and health.
20. **Falsified food products** are food products that are deliberately changed properties (fake products) and (or) having hidden properties and quality, information about which is obviously incomplete or unreliable.

21**. Physical accessibility** of food provides for availability of food and stable functioning of infrastructure of food markets for a stable supply of food to the population throughout the country (retail and wholesale trade, logistics and management of product flows; development of interregional and interstate relations, public stocks).

22**. Economic affordability** of food provides for the availability of resources with the population for consumption of food in volumes and assortment, not less than the norms established by the state and ensuring balanced nutrition.

# Abbreviations

|  |  |
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| **IPPA** | Investment Promotion and Protection Agency |
| **BP FS** | Basic products for evaluation of food security |
| **WHO** | World Health Organization |
| **HEI** | Higher educational institution |
| **WFP** | World Food Programme |
| **WTO** | World Trade Organization |
| **SALSGIR** | State Agency on issues of Local Self-Government and Interethnic Relations |
| **SIVPS** | State Inspectorate for Veterinary and Phytosanitary Safety |
| **GMI** | Guaranteed minimum income |
| **DDP&SSES** | Department for Disease Prevention and State Sanitary and Epidemiological Surveillance |
| **WRA** | Women of reproductive age |
| **EAEC** | Euro-Asian Economic Community |
| **MBLIF** | Monthly benefit for low-income families |
| **MSA** | Monthly social allowance |
| **PwD** | Persons with disabilities |
| **MoH** | Ministry of Health |
| **MFA** | Ministry of Foreign Affairs |
| **OIE** | World Organization for Animal Health |
| **MoES** | Ministry of Education and Science |
| **IWG** | Interagency working group |
| **MAFIM** | Ministry of Agriculture, Food Industry and Melioration |
| **MLSD** | Ministry of Labor and Social Development |
| **MoF** | Ministry of Finance |
| **MES** | Ministry of Emergency Situations |
| **MoE** | Ministry of Economics |
| **MoJ** | Ministry of Justice |
| **NISS** | National Institute for Strategic Studies |
| **NLA** | Normative legal acts |
| **NSC** | National Statistical Committee |
| **LSG** | Local self-governments |
| **FSN** | Food security and nutrition |
| **GovKR** | Government of the Kyrgyz Republic |
| **PRGovKRR** | Plenipotentuary Representation of Government of KR in regions |
| **Media** | Media |
| **CFSN** | Council on Food Security and Nutrition |
| **SEI** | Secondary educational institution |
| **SF** | Social Fund |
| **TFA** | Trans fatty acids |
| **TR CU** | Technical Regulations of Customs Union |
| **FAO** | Food and Agriculture Organization |
| **SMRF** | State Material Reserves Fund |
| **HACCP** | Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points |
| **CSM** | Center for standardization and metrology |
| **SDG** | Sustainable Development Goals |

1. Information bulletin of the Kyrgyz Republic on food security and poverty. NSC 2018 [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Information bulletin of the Kyrgyz Republic on food security and poverty. NSC 2014, NSC 2016, NSC 2018. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Cadastre indicators of ameliorative status of irrigated lands for 2013 - 2016, the Kyrgyz Republic http://livingasia.online/la\_data/ [↑](#footnote-ref-3)