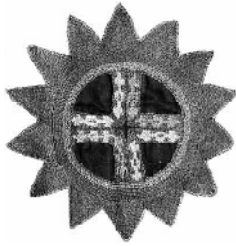




**TAJIKISTAN  
HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT  
2000**



## 2000 NHDR

The basic theme of this year's NHDR is the challenges facing Tajikistan in consolidating the gains under the General Agreement on Peace and National Reconciliation into sustainable economic and social development. The report describes and analyses some aspects of this peace-building process and of the challenges which stand in the way, notably the need to reintegrate fully into society, in a way which allows them to earn a decent living, former fighters and returnees. Examples of actions undertaken so far in this field are also given.

I should like to draw attention to a few of the key points for future action. Given the high level of poverty, the predominantly rural distribution of the population, and the fact that the basic natural resource of the country remains its agricultural potential - even though this is limited to 7% of the land surface - it is essential to ensure much greater production and productivity in agriculture and agro-processing. It is also essential to ensure that the primary producer receives a fair return on his (or her) assets and labour. This will require the continued consideration of new policies which could transform the whole sector. The drought which made itself felt quite severely in the middle of 2000 also drew attention to the need to improve the overall management of the country's water resources, which are in fact abundant. By "management" should be understood not just meteorological, hydrological and hydro-geological aspects nor the technical matters of controlling the flow, storage, and distribution of water, but the purposes to which water is put - their economic benefits and costs at real prices, their sustainability, their contribution to human well-being locally and nationally.

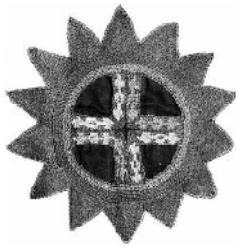
There is reference in the report to the necessity to adapt and expand education to the needs of the vastly changed national and global economy in which Tajikistan now finds itself. This is indeed crucial and will require considerable efforts by all components of society. It will also be important to ensure that girls and boys do in actual fact benefit equally from access to, and full participation in, all levels of education and training.

The Government's preparation of an Interim Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper during 2000 has focussed attention on a number of key steps to be taken to reduce poverty. Many of these are policy and structural steps essential to allow individual people to make their own contributions to a better life for themselves and their children. It is heartening to note that many of the elements of the IPRSP and of UNDP's overall approach to "human development" coincide. We look forward therefore to working together on these issues in the coming year and beyond.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Matthew Kahane', is positioned above the printed name.

Matthew Kahane  
UNDP Resident Representative in Tajikistan

Dushanbe  
18 December 2000



## Foreword

This National Human Development Report is the sixth in a row. It reflects the first steps of the Republic of Tajikistan in the new environment of peace and national accord. The peace process in Tajikistan has now become irreversible. Initiated seven years ago under the auspices of the Inter Tajik Negotiations, the peace process has now achieved its goal: the key terms of the "General Agreement on the Establishment of Peace and National Accord" have been implemented; the Commission for National Reconciliation, set up under the "General Agreement" has fulfilled all its functions; the mandate of the UNMOT office has been completed; and the contact group of countries-guarantors has concluded its activities. At the same time it should be noted that the tasks facing Tajikistan today are no less important and complex than those it faced in previous years. As a result of many years of armed confrontation, more than 50 thousand people have died, and the total cost of the damage inflicted by war is estimated at more than US\$7 billion. And this does not include the additional costs necessary to ensure the psychological rehabilitation of the population and the inclusion of refugees and returnees - which constitute almost one fifth of population - to the social, economic and political life of the country.

It is clear that under these conditions Tajikistan cannot cope with the solution of complex social and economic problems without international assistance. Civil war, natural calamities, and the collapse of economic relations with the former soviet republics have almost completely paralysed the economy, and have negatively affected the capacity of industrial and agricultural enterprises and the infrastructure of the country. It is sufficient to indicate that in 1998 the level of GDP in the Republic was 57% lower than in 1990. At present the Republic of Tajikistan has the lowest GDP per capita of all the CIS countries. Average salaries are less than US\$9.4 a month in nominal terms. Thus, the overwhelming majority of the population can be classified as poor and a significant minority as extremely poor. The currently high level of poverty can, however, be overcome by labour intensive growth with an expansion of employment opportunities, the creation of an efficient labour market and the greater participation of young people in the various spheres of labour activity. In the post-war economy of Tajikistan, international organisations can contribute to the poverty reduction not only by the continued provision of humanitarian assistance, but also by supporting micro-projects that foster labour intensive economic growth, particularly in the rural area.

Following the signing of the "General Agreement on the Establishment of Peace and National Accord", positive growth in industrial production was achieved for the first time since the outbreak of hostilities. In 1998, the volume of industrial production increased by 8.1%, and this growth continued in 1999, at a pace of 5.6%. Agricultural production also increased by 6.5% in 1998. However, due to poor weather conditions this level of progress was not maintained and in 1999 growth was just 3.8%. These positive results indicate that the decline in production has been slowed. However, the economy remains fragile and it is too early to say whether Tajikistan is entering a period of enduring rapid growth. Such growth is necessary, however, if Tajikistan is to improve significantly the living conditions of its population.

Despite the difficulties of the war and the post-conflict period, the Government has taken positive action to rehabilitate the economy including the development of a mid term economic reform programme and the adoption of legislation to regulate international

economic co-operation. The Republic of Tajikistan is a member of a number of international financial institutions and follows all the terms proposed by them, both for the receipt of credit and the implementation of economic reform in general. Bilateral relations with many western and eastern countries have been established and consolidated and sub-regional and inter-state partnerships have expanded.

With the globalisation of the world economy, international co-operation will play an increasingly important role for Tajikistan as the country enters the 21st century. More transparent and constructive systems of investment co-operation are needed for the development of Tajikistan's main resources. Inward investment will assist the rehabilitation of the economy and improve the living conditions of the population. In order to attract investments into the economy Tajikistan on its part should improve its legislation, and create an enabling environment of trust and security for large, medium and small businesses.

The Republic of Tajikistan is slowly and surely reviving from the political, social and economic crises of recent years. A climate of constructive dialogue has been established within the country. All sections of society feel the necessity to look for ways to intensify the mobilisation of domestic resources and foreign investments for the efficient reconstruction and sustainable development of the country. In solving the above mentioned problems the United Nations Development Programme continues to play an important role and, in partnership with the Governmental Agencies of the Republic of Tajikistan, is contributing to the harnessing of human resources for the development of Tajikistan.



Talbak Nazarov

Minister of Foreign Affairs Republic of Tajikistan

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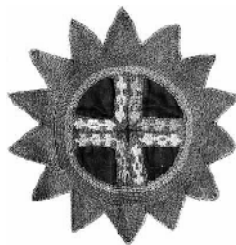
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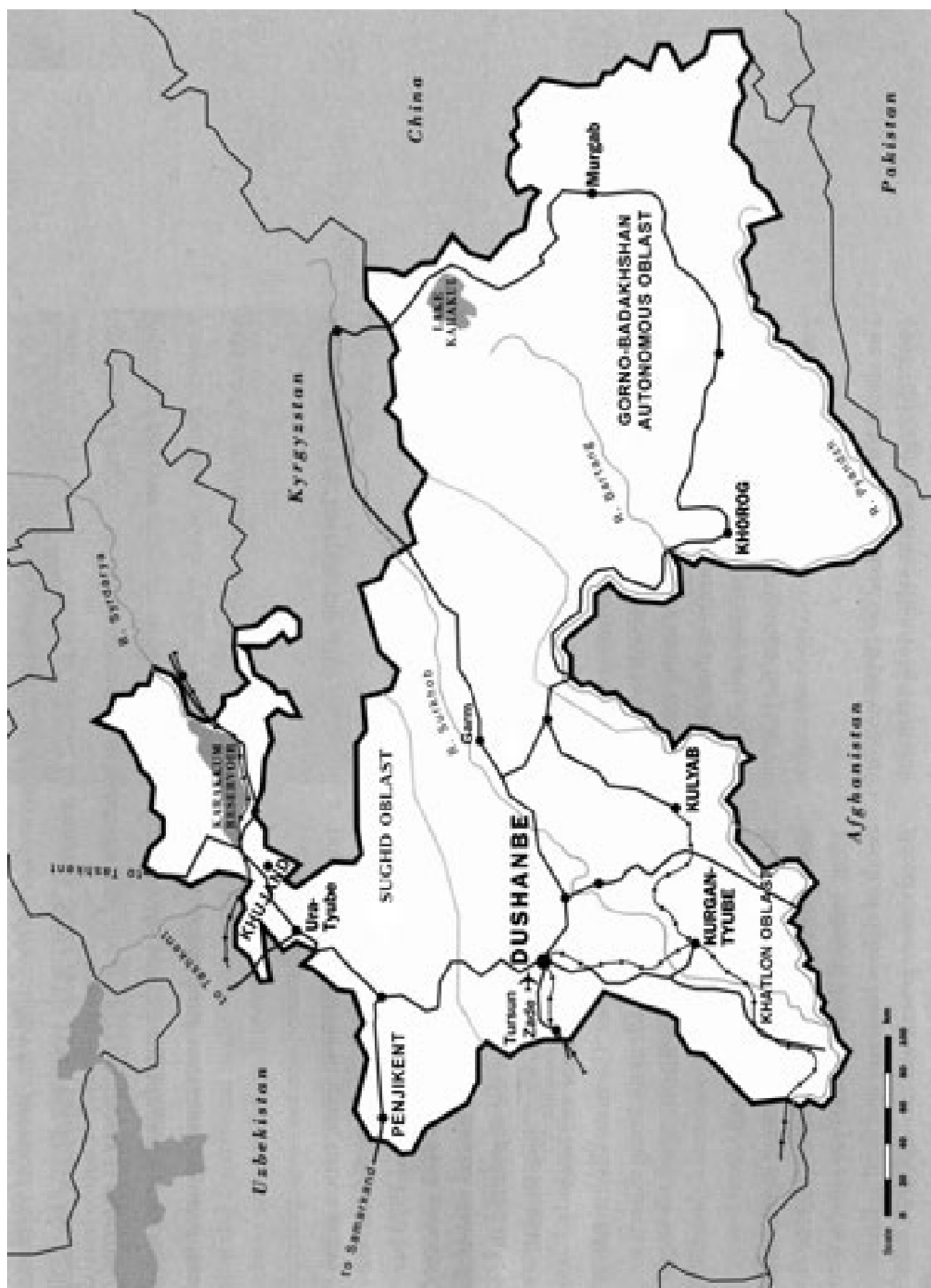
## Acronyms

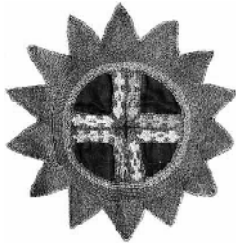
ADB	Asian Development Bank
AKF	Aga Khan Foundation
CADA	Central Asian Development Agency
CARE	Co-operative for Assistance and Relief Everywhere
CNR	Commission for the National Reconciliation
CPI	Consumer Price Index
EBRD	European Bank of Reconstruction and Development
ECHO	European Community Humanitarian Organisation
ESCAP	Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific Ocean Countries
FAO	Food and Agricultural Organisation
GAA	German Agro Action
GBAO	Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Oblast
GEM	Gender Empowerment Measure
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GNP	Gross National Product
GRI	Gender Related Index
HDI	Human Development Index
HIV	Human Immune Deficiency Virus
HPI	Human Poverty Index
IDB	Islamic Development Bank
IFES	International Foundation for Election System
IFRC	International Federation of the Red Cross & Red Crescent Societies
ILO	International Labour Organisation
IMF	International Monetary Fund
IMR	Infant Mortality Rate
IT	Information Technology
KHO	Khatlon Oblast
LO	Leninabad Oblast (renamed to Sughd Oblast in 2000)
MMR	Maternal Mortality Rate
OHCHR	Commission for Human Rights
OSCE	Organisation of Security and Co-operation in Europe
PHC	Primary Health Care
PPP	Purchasing Power Parity
PRSP	Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper
RRS	Regions of Republican Subordination
RT	Republic of Tajikistan
SCF/ UK	Save the Children Fund/United Kingdom
SC/US	Save the Children /USA
SHD	Sustainable Human Development
SSA	State Statistical Agency
STD	Sexually transmitted diseases
TACIF	Tajik Social Investment Fund
TLSS	Tajikistan Living Standards Survey
TR	Tajik Rouble
UNCHR	United Nations Commissioner for Human Rights
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific, Cultural Organisation
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNMOT	United Nations Mission of Observers to Tajikistan
UNOCHA	United Nations Office for the Co-ordination of Humanitarian Affairs
UNODCCP	United Nations Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention
UNOPS	United Nations Office of Project Services
UNTOP	United Nations Tajikistan Office of Peace - Building
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
WB	World Bank
WFP	World Food Program
WHO	World Health Organisation

# TAJIKISTAN: BASIC FACTS - 1999



Territory	143,000 km <sup>2</sup> , density- 42.8
Total population	6.1 million, female 49.7%, male 50.3% , rural 73.5%
Human habitation on	7% of territory
Capital	Dushanbe
Independence Day	9 September
HDI ranking of 174	110
HDI	0.601
GDI	0.599
GEM	0.388
HPI	29.3
GDP per capita	US\$ 178.50, \$14.90 per month
GDP (PPP) per capita	US\$ 330, \$27.50 per month
Life expectancy	68.4
Education enrolment (%)	68.8 (of all levels)
Currency	Tajik rouble, 1999 exchange rate 1US\$ = 1,237 TR 26 October 2000 new currency - somoni- was circulated. 1US\$=2.2 somoni
Public budget on social sectors (%):	20
Health	6.0
Education	11.8
Export (%)	63.3
Economic growth (%)	3.7
CPI (%)	30.1
Consumption basket	23,750 TR (\$19.20) a month
Average salary	11,609TR (\$9.40) a month
Minimal pension	2,000TR (\$1.60) a month
Share of employed in state sector	37.1%
Share of employed in private sector	36.8%
Unemployment rate	30% (WB)
Privatised entities	5,558
Farms, registered	9,174
NGOs	469 (200 functioning)
Number of students per teacher	12.5
Number of teachers	96.8 thousand
Number of secondary schools	3,551
Number of people per doctor	469.8
Number of nurses per doctor	2.5
Contraceptive use (%)	30
MMR per 100,000 live births	87.8
IMR per 1,000 live births	23.4
Fertility rate	3.7
Population growth rate	1.6





## Introduction: Tajikistan and Sustainable Human Development

The preparation of this report reflects the development priorities of Tajikistan. Contributors include both development practitioners and policy makers who are committed to achieving sustainable human development for the benefit of the people of Tajikistan.

Tajikistan has only been a sovereign state since September 1991. However, within this short period of time it has managed to find its place within the global policy arena as a peacemaker in Central Asia. This is a significant achievement given the dramatic events that have occurred since independence. During the civil war both the people and the economy of Tajikistan suffered. It was difficult enough to restore positive economic growth in this environment; and it has been even more of a challenge to preserve the past achievements in the spheres of education, health, and social protection. Despite these problems, Tajikistan's position in the global HDI ranking has improved from 115th in 1997 to 110th in 2000 out of a total of 174 countries.

At the end of the 20th century, Tajikistan has strengthened its nationhood and governance. Peace and national accord have been achieved in the ancient Tajik land. In 1999, and the beginning of 2000, there were a number of significant political, social and economic events which may be considered as milestones in Tajikistan's progress in becoming a democratic nation within the global arena:

- In autumn 1999 Presidential elections were held;

- In 1999, a new Government was formed with representatives of the Opposition;
- A referendum on the approval of the amendments to the Constitution was conducted amongst the whole population;
- In spring 2000, Parliamentary elections were held and a new professional parliament was formed;
- The 1100th anniversary of the Samanid Empire was celebrated inside and outside the country;
- The first census since independence was carried out, showing that the population of Tajikistan now numbers more than six million;
- The first Living Standards Survey was also conducted in 1999, providing valuable information on the living conditions of population;
- Positive economic growth was achieved for a third year in a row.

Tajikistan is a country with enormous potential, with a rich cultural heritage, a population of six million people, high human capital and an emerging democracy. In 1999 the UNDP Human Development Index for the country was 0.601. The Gender Related Development Index has improved from 0.534 in 1998 to 0.599 and the Gender Empowerment measure has risen from 0.282 to 0.388, reflecting the continuing advancement of women. However, alongside this there is evidence that poverty is increasing and inequality widening. The Human Poverty Index has increased from 27.3 in 1998 to 29.3 in 1999. There is a disparity between the goals of improved human development and the actual real life situation for many people. Poverty is a main cause for concern. At the same time it is important

Table 1. Life expectancy

1998	years
Total	68.4
Male	65.6
Female	71.3

(SSA)

to note that the infant mortality rate has fallen and life expectancy is increasing. Nevertheless the social inequalities and growth of poverty represents a real threat to Tajikistan's future development. According to official data, today in Tajikistan more than 80% of the population are poor, and 20% are extremely poor, living on less than a dollar per day.

Poverty reduction has become a priority for the Government. A Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper has been prepared and is being discussed at all levels of society. Poverty reduction strategy is aimed at the expansion of access to basic human needs. Amongst the groups most affected by poverty are women and the elderly population.

Poverty in Tajikistan was caused by the economic collapse following independence, with the disruption of trade and the civil war. Positive economic growth has been achieved over the last three years from 1997 to 1999. However, this growth has been slow to translate into improvements in the living conditions for the majority of the population, as per capita growth remains relatively low, hindering the reduction of poverty. The Government continues to make efforts to reduce poverty by investing into the social

Table 2. Education enrolment in 1999 (%)

Type of education	M	F
Total	74	63.1
Prim - sec (6-17)	79.8	71.9
Higher (18-22)	20.9	6.8

(SSA)

sectors, which account 20% of public expenditures.

It is obvious that poverty reduction in the country will need an enormous effort. It is also obvious that any successful strategy will need to be based on the promotion of equitable economic growth. It goes without saying that on the dawn of the third millenium, decisive actions are required to stimulate the human potential of Tajikistan - through education, medical care, reliable social protection, and the realisation of human rights and freedoms.

Today in Tajikistan people are free to form associations, NGOs, and political parties. There are currently around ten political parties and movements in the Republic. Each year the voices of NGOs sound more loudly on a variety of issues. Participation in an NGO provides the poor with an opportunity to make their voices heard, to impact upon state policy, to realise their rights and to identify their place in society.

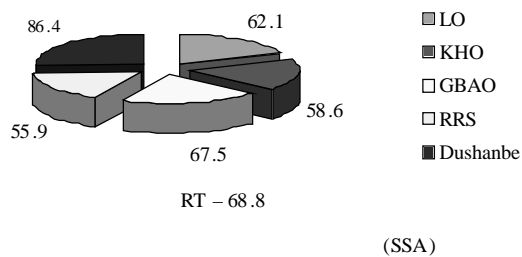
The factors necessary to ensure sustainable human development are well known. They are equity in employment and access to the means of production, gender equity, efficient governance, civil society, access to basic services and social protection. These can be realised

Table 3. Public expenditures for the social sectors in 1999

	% of the total budget	% of GDP	% of budget 2000
Education	11.8	2.1	13.5
Health	6.0	1.0	6.9
Social protection	1.1	0.2	1.3
Cash compensation	0.6	0.1	2.3
Total	19.5	3.4	24.0

(SSA)

Chart 1. Education enrolment in regions (%)



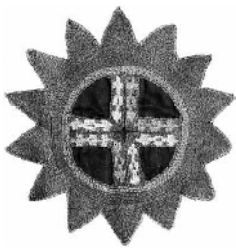
achieve an environment for sustainable human development through economic growth. The provision of basic social services, health, education and social protection will also play a key role in poverty reduction. This will be a challenge as currently half the population is unable to meet its basic needs.

in Tajikistan.

Tajikistan is improving its development policy, paying priority attention to poverty alleviation. Its main aim is to

Nevertheless, it is hoped that with the continuing support of the international community, Tajikistan will be able to attain sustainable human development in the 21 century.





## Section I.

# The concept of Human Development

This human development report for Tajikistan is primarily about people. Human development is concerned with the expansion of choices so that people are able to lead a long and healthy life, are educated and have the resources necessary for a decent standard of living. Development per se is necessary for people to have these choices, although the decisions that people ultimately make are dependent on their own preferences. The process of human development creates an enabling environment so that people develop their potential in accordance with their needs and interests. Thus the concept of human development is wider than simply providing people with the opportunity to realise their capabilities. It also involves the use of these capabilities at work, in leisure time and in social activities. If there is no balance between the formation of capabilities and their use, then human potential will remain unrealised.

The main measure of human development is the Human Development Index (HDI). The Index reflects the level of life expectancy, education and access to resources within the country. The advantage of this indicator is that social and economic progress is measured not only by income, but also by improvements in human capabilities i.e. in education and health. One of the key components of the HDI is life expectancy. For a long life it is important to have good nutrition, good health and to be educated. Even with a low level of national income it is possible for a country to achieve a high level of human development where a significant proportion of that income is spent on education and health. Thus, the well being of a country does not only depend on the level of income, but also on the way this income is spent. Even with a high level of income and government revenue, there may be a low level of human development level if resources are distributed unequally

and education and health receive a low priority. High income by itself does not guarantee human development. The main aim of development therefore should be the achievement of both strong economic growth and sustainable human development. There are two sides to human development - the formation of human capabilities and use of these capabilities.

Sustainable human development is the development that leads not only to economic growth, but also to its equal distribution; it regenerates the environment, rather than destroying it; it empowers people and does not make them irresponsible mechanical producers.

This kind of development pays priority attention to poor people, expanding their

### The main aims of human development

- Basic education for all;
- Primary health care, and vaccination of children;
- Elimination of cases of acute malnutrition;
- Access to family planning;
- Safe water and sanitation;
- Ensure employment.

capabilities and providing them with participation in decision-making processes which affect their lives. This development is for people; it is pro-environment, pro-employment, and pro-women.

### The concept of human development

The concept of human development is always evolving. Its pillars are participation, empowerment, equity, sustainability, security and gender parity.

- **Empowerment** depends on the expansion of human capabilities, functions and freedom. All people may be free to purchase food stuffs, but this

freedom means nothing to the poor, who have no money. Each person may be free to purchase a newspaper, but only literate people can use this capability. Similarly everyone may be free to travel, but only healthy people may be able to use this opportunity and those who are disabled may be bedridden. In order for people to be active agents of their own development they need to be empowered to take advantage of the opportunities that are afforded to them;

- **Partnership and co-operation.** People live in a society, which in turn reflects many social structures, ranging from family to the state. People value participation within society and their sense of belonging is an important source of well being. It provides employment, direction, and a sense of meaning to life. The concept of human development recognises the importance of culture - reflecting the means of organisation and communication of people within society, its values and belief - in shaping the human development of the individual;
- **Equity.** The term equity is generally associated with concepts such as wealth and income. But within human development its meaning includes the pursuit of equity in opportunities and capabilities. In this respect it is very important to be healthy and educated, particularly for women. Women contribute significantly within the family and community, but this contribution is very often not appreciated as their labour is not paid;
- **Sustainability.** Sustainable development meets the needs of the present generations without compromising the choice for the future generations. It is about equity among generations and the sustainability of capabilities across generations;
- **Security.** People in all countries, both developing and developed, live with risks. These include the risk of unemployment, violence, ill health and others. Unemployment is the main source of vulnerability, which decreases access to income.

The HDI, as mentioned above, has three

constituents: long life, education and living standards. Long life is measured by life expectancy at birth, which is an indicator of the health of a nation. Education is measured by adult literacy and school enrolment, which indicates the human capital of a nation and investment by the state in increasing the capabilities and opportunities of its citizens. The standard of living is measured by real GDP per capita adjusted to the local cost of living. The HDI is an alternative to GDP for the measurement of social and economic development. HDI indicates the level of human development achieved, facilitates comparisons between countries, regions and identifies the priorities for future policies.

The measurement of human development can be used to assess the quality of economic growth. Good economic growth promotes all aspects of human development. Such growth:

- Provides employment opportunities and security for households;
- Strengthens freedom of people and their potential;
- Distributes assets equitably;
- Promotes social cohesion;
- Protects future human development.

At each stage policy makers should ask: Who gains from growth? Does it create jobs? Does it meet the needs of cultural diversity?

This NHDR underlines the necessity of promoting economic growth, political stability, freedom of rights, and civil society organisations as engines for human development. The recent situation in Tajikistan has confirmed that expansion of human capabilities and individual choice as well as reductions in poverty cannot be achieved without the solution of political problems and the achievement of peace and national accord.

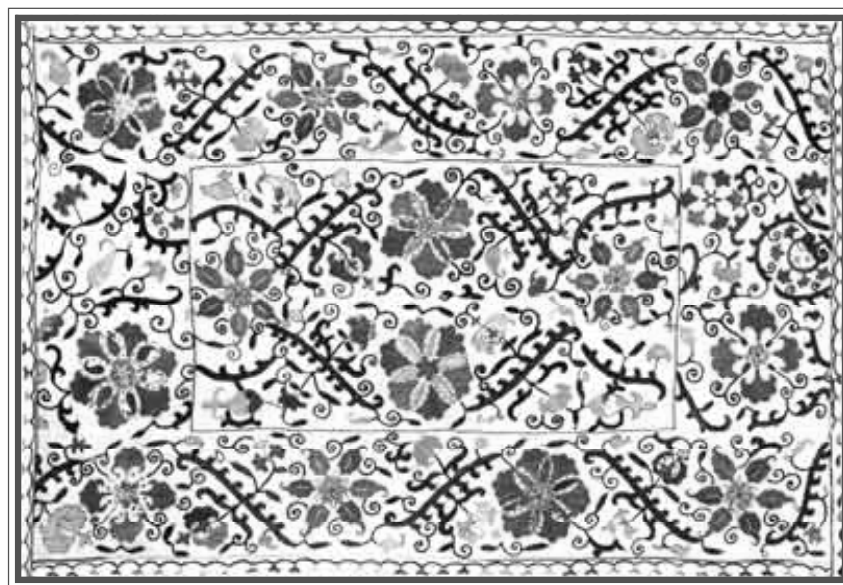
Though Tajikistan has experienced a difficult period in economic growth, it still has the opportunity to integrate SHD within its macroeconomic policy. The country has a high level of human capital, including a well-qualified and literate labour force, as well as extensive natural

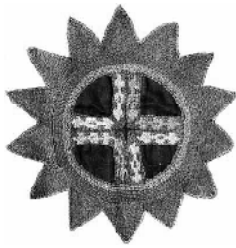
resources and mineral deposits. Irrational human activity often negatively impacts upon the country's natural resources. It is important to reverse this trend and to implement policies that both tackle the economic difficulties of the country and support human development. The impact of economic growth on the improvement of quality of life depends much on the character of the distribution of that growth. In particular, it is dependent upon what poor people get, and how additional resources are used to support the social sectors, for example, basic education, and primary health care services.

SHD involves a moral commitment to create an enabling environment in which all people can develop their capacities, and in which these opportunities will expand both for present and future generations. This requires the investment of sufficient resources in the education

and health sectors, which will in turn give rise to positive returns in future. It also requires a change in the way natural resources are used, which will avoid their depletion and ecological damage for future generations.

During the last years, despite the difficulties, there has been progress in achieving human development. However, new problems have emerged that threaten this progress, such as the growth in poverty, malnutrition, criminality and drug use. As Tajikistan enters the 21st century, it should renew its commitment towards SHD. To this end policies should be implemented that stabilise population growth, decrease inequalities, provide for sustainable use of energy resources and encourage biodiversity, protect the environment, increase investments into basic education and medical services as well as foster strong economic growth.





## Section II. Part 1.

### The Human Factor in Development

#### 1. Demographic Trends and Employment Opportunities

##### 1.1 Demographic trends

The first Census of the independent Republic of Tajikistan was conducted in January 2000. This provides an up-to-date picture of the size and distribution of the population of Tajikistan. As of January 2000, the total population is estimated to be 6.1 million, of which 73.5% live in rural areas. The population is distributed across the four main oblasts and the capital (Dushanbe) as follows: Khatlon oblast- 35.1%; Leninabad (Sughd) oblast - 30.5%; Regions of Republican Subordination - 22.7%; Dushanbe - 9.2% and Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous oblast- 3.4%. The gender balance in the country is roughly equal, with men constituting 50.3% of the population and women 49.7%.

In the summer of 1999, the State Statistical Agency, in partnership with UNDP and the World Bank, conducted a detailed household survey in order to examine the living standards of the population. According to the data of the Tajikistan Living Standards Survey (TLSS), in 1999 the average household size was 7.1 people. This varied between rural and urban areas, with a mean household size of 5.7 people in urban areas and 7.6 people in rural areas.

According to the same data, the average age of population of Tajikistan is 22.8 years, reflecting a relatively youthful population. The share of population aged 15 and under is 45%. This is despite the fact

that the last ten years have witnessed a decrease in the birth rate. In 1991, there were 38.9 births per 1,000 population. By 1999 this had fallen to just 18.2 births per 1,000 population.

Although there is no doubt that the birth rate has fallen since independence, these figures may overestimate the true extent of the decline. The accuracy of data on both births and deaths has been affected by the introduction of a fee for registration. The registration fee, which is equivalent to \$3 - or to put it into perspective, the average monthly salary of someone employed in health and social protection sectors - is likely to deter many families from registering births, especially in remote rural areas.

The reduction in births over the last decade has resulted in a decrease in the natural growth rate of the population. In 1991, the population was estimated to be growing by 32.8 per 1,000 population, i.e. 3.3%. However, by 1999 the growth rate had fallen by over a half to 14.4 per 1,000 (or 1.4%).

The crude death rate has declined from 6.1 deaths per 1,000 population in 1991 to 4.2 per 1,000 in 1999. Life expectancy at birth fell from 70.5 years in 1991 to a low of 66.1 in 1993-1994. Since then it has recovered somewhat and in 1999 was estimated to be 68.4 years.

Table 1. The population of the RT in January 2000 (thousand people)

	Total	Of which		Male	Female
		Urban	Rural		
RT	6,127	1,623	4,504	3,082	3,045
Dushanbe	562	562	-	290	272
LO	1,870	497	1,373	934.5	935.5
KHO	2,151	370	1,781	1,076.5	1,074.5
GBAO	206	28	178	104	102
RRS	1,338	166	1,172	677	661

(SSA)

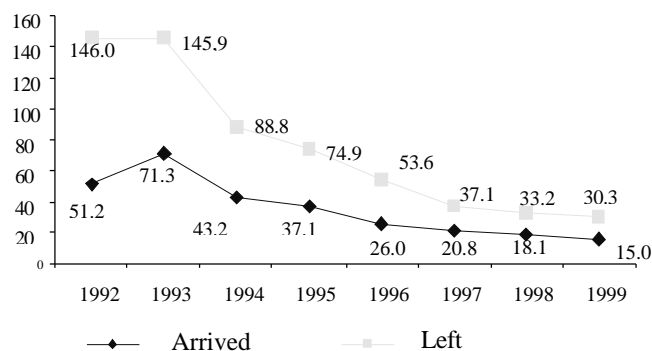
Table 2. Demographic indicators, 1991-1999

Per 1,000 population	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Crude Birth Rate	38.9	32.2	33.1	28.2	28.6	24.5	25.0	18.4	18.6
Crude Death Rate	6.1	6.6	8.7	7.0	5.9	5.4	5.8	4.6	4.2
Infant Mortality Rate	40.6	45.9	47.0	40.6	30.9	31.3	30.7	23.4	-
Maternal Mortality Rate	-	-	-	87.6	93.7	87.6	65.5	...	...
Life expectancy	70.5	68.3	66.1	66.1	68.3	69.6	68.3	68.4	68.4

(SSA)

The overall level of population growth within the population is affected by the level of migration, as well as by births and deaths. Throughout the last decade Tajikistan has experienced out-migration, with the number of those leaving the country exceeding those entering. Between 1992 and 1999 more than 610 thousand of people left Tajikistan, with the peak flows occurring in 1992 and 1993 immediately after independence and during the height of the civil unrest. In contrast, over the same period 290 thousand people entered Tajikistan. Though the level of out-migration has fallen, the net migration rate is still high - at 2.5 per 1,000 population. Thus, although the recorded level of out-migration in 1999 was 323,000, its true level may be much higher.

Chart 1. Migration of population in 1992-1999, (thousand people)



(SSA)

Marriage and divorce rates provide an important insight into demographic behavior within Tajikistan. The number of marriages in 1999 was just 38% of the level

in 1991. This decline is caused by deterioration of living conditions and the civil conflict in 1992-1993. The decline of the marriage rate is, in part, responsible for the decline in birth rate noted above.

Unlike elsewhere in the former Soviet Union, the decline in marriage rates has not been accompanied by an increase in divorces. Rather, the trend has been towards a reduction in the number of marriages breaking down and the general divorce rate fell from 1.4 per 1,000 population in 1991 to 0.4 in 1999. The low level of divorce reflects the tradition and culture of Tajikistan.

In sum, despite recent changes in the demographic characteristics of Tajikistan, population growth remains at 1.6% per annum. The solution of population issues will require reforms in economic and social sectors, the achievement of gender equity, and meeting the health care needs of population. All of this will need to be done within the framework of national, religious traditions and customs.

#### Recommendation:

- National Population and Development strategy should be worked out;
- Access to reproductive health centres needs to be provided by the Ministry of Health to both rural and urban populations;
- Family planning should be promoted with regard to the national, religious traditions and customs of the population;

Table 3. Marriage and divorce rates in 1991-1999

	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Number of marriages	56,505	46,672	53,945	38,820	32,078	27,021	28,836	20,192	21,578
Number of divorces	7,562	6,482	5,293	4,372	4,342	4,516	4,109	2,539	2,339
Per 1,000 population									
- marriage	10.3	8.4	9.6	6.8	5.5	4.6	4.9	3.4	3.7
- divorce	1.4	1.2	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.4	0.4

(SSA)

- To strengthen potential of academic and research institutions, which collect and analyse data on health, population, and gender by preparing courses on demography and through exchange of experience;
- System of registration of births should be reformed;
- Survey should be conducted to identify priorities in population strategy.

## 1.2 Employment opportunities

According to the official data, both the number of people registered as unemployed and those officially recognized as unemployed has fallen over the last year. The official unemployment rate dropped from 3.2% in 1998 to 3.1% in 1999. However, analysis of employment data reveals a different picture, with an increase in the number of people who are not actually working. The number of people listed as being employed in the national economy was 1,081,200 in 1999. However, it is estimated that the number of people who were actually working in Tajikistan was 829,700; a decline of 195,200 compared with 1998. The share of those actually working as a proportion of those who were listed as employed was: 71.7% in the sphere of material production, and 94.8% in the sphere of non-material production. Thus, in 1998 it was estimated that 128,100 people did not work and did not get salary, and by 1999 this had risen to 251,800 people.

Taking these figures as an indicator of unemployment, it is estimated that the true level of unemployment in Tajikistan, calculated by ILO methodology, in 1999

was 16.8%. Taking into account the number of hidden unemployed and those working temporary, the real level of unemployment may be as high as 30%.

In 1999, 33,153 people applied to employment centres for assistance, which is 27.8% less than in 1998. Of these 46% were women and 49% were youth, aged between 15 and 29 years. The latter statistic is particularly alarming as young people represent the most energetic part of population. The fall in the number of applicants is related to the lack of new job opportunities, low value of unemployment allowances, and the fact that the skills of many unemployed people are not compatible with the skills required.

The young also constitute a worryingly high proportion of the registered unemployed and those applying to employment centres. Over half (52.5%) of the total number of registered unemployed are aged 18-29 and this proportion rises to 67.5% in GBAO. The highest rate of unemployment in all the regions is found amongst secondary school graduates. Their share in total number of unemployed in RT is 68.9%. This varies from 73.6% in RRS to 60.0% in Dushanbe, with GBAO - 70.9%, KHO-63.1%, and LO-65.6%. The majority of unemployed school graduates are dependants in their families or receive low official income. Poor access to economic resources from legal avenues has resulted in an increase in the number of crimes involving young people. It is therefore essential to create the mechanisms to increase employment opportunities for youth, as well as to support organisations

Table 4. Labour market and employment in 1998-1999

	1998	1999	1999 as a % 1998
Economically active population (thousands)	1,855.0	1,780.0	96.0
Number of persons listed as being employed in the national economy (thousands)	1,153.0	1,081.2	93.8
Number of people actually working (thousands)	1,024.9	829.7	80.9
Number of registered unemployed (people)	66,366	61,394	92.5
Number of officially recognized as unemployed (people)	54,101	49,720	91.9
Number of those who applied to employment centres (people) of which	42,370	33,153	78.2
- employed (people)	15,381	16,225	105.5
Official level of unemployment (registered unemployed as a percentage of economically active population)	3.2%	3.1%	

(SSA and Ministry of Labour and Employment)

Table 5. Employment Centre Activity by regions 1999 ( people)

Regions	Number of registered in employment centres	Of which registered as unemployed	In 1999			
			applied	employed	Sent for training	Social works
RT, of which	61,394	49,720	33,153	16,225	2,544	8,653
GBAO	15,214	13,790	3,056	762	127	916
Dushanbe	2,907	774	3,206	1,396	533	636
KHO	7,036	5,375	8,768	6,466	680	2,367
LO	17,890	15,073	10,634	5,344	762	3,209
RRS	18,347	14,708	7,489	2,257	442	1,525

(Ministry of Labour and Employment )

and facilities that will provide structure for their leisure time and enhanced educational opportunities.

Data on the geographical distribution of the registered unemployment show that there are far fewer registered unemployed in Dushanbe than elsewhere in the country. Although the registered unemployment is highest in Leninabad, its share of the total population is considerably higher in GBAO than elsewhere in the country.

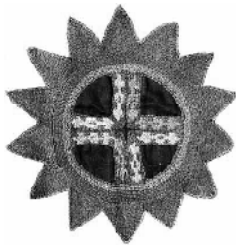
Of 49,720 unemployed registered in 1999, 34,678 people were eligible for unemployment allowance. However only 20,694 people actually received such an allowance and the total amount of paid benefit was 116 million TR.

In 1999 the number of vacancies was just 7,334. To put this another way, there were on average nine registered unemployed for

one vacancy. If the non-registered unemployed are taken into account, this figure rises to over 30. Therefore for the solution of the unemployment problem it is necessary to have a dynamic state employment policy. This will require long-term national, regional and sectors employment programs that provide both training and job skills for the unemployed and help to create new jobs.

#### Recommendations:

- Develop co-ordinated national, regional and sectors employment programmes;
- Activate and improve the training and retraining of personnel;
- Develop a well functioning labour market;
- Increase the number of job seats by pursuing a policy of labour intensive macroeconomic growth;
- Improve the institutional capacity for the expansion of private businesses.



## 2. Democratisation

The Global HDR -2000 reports that for the first time in history the majority of the countries in the world live in a democracy. This provides hope, as the democratic system is the only one in which all human rights are respected. At the end of the 20th century, advances have been achieved in Tajikistan in the realms of democratisation and the expansion of human rights. This confirms that on the eve of the 21st century the country is on the road to human development, demonstrating to the world community the indispensable role of the human factor in the peace making process.

The aim of democracy is to provide human beings with seven main liberties: liberty from discrimination, freedom from fear, poverty, injustice, exploitation, and the freedom to realise their human potential and to participate in the decision making process.

In 1997, with the achievement of "General Agreement on the Establishment of Peace and National Accord", the country began to move way from being a "conflict state". The greatest contributions to the promotion of peace, democratisation and social cohesion were made by the Government of the RT, the Majlisi Oli (Parliament of the RT), and the Council for National Reconciliation and UNMOT. They created an enabling environment for the signing of an amnesty, disarmament and reintegration of the UTO within government structures. Members of the Opposition were appointed to the Government positions according to the 30% quota stipulated by the "General Agreement". The favourable environment facilitated the preparation of a new law "On Political Parties", the annulment of the ban on the activities

of the parties and movements of UTO, and the inclusion of the UTO members into the Central Electoral Commission (25%). The climax of these activities was the preparation of a new Law "On Elections to Majlisi Oli", followed by peoples' referendum to approve the amendments to the Constitution of the Republic of Tajikistan, and finally elections to the first professional parliament of Tajikistan.

### 2.1 The Road to Elections

#### **The People's referendum**

The main political processes in society have been reflected in amendments and additions to the Constitution of the Republic Tajikistan. The people of Tajikistan approved these changes in a referendum held on the 26 September 1999. The amendments to the Constitution, adopted by peoples' referendum, introduced seven years of Presidential rule and a two chamber Parliament - composed of Majlisi Milli (National Chamber), and Majlisi Namoyandagon (Chamber of Representatives). They also introduced the right of citizens to participate in the formation of political parties on a religious basis.

A total of 2,591,905 people voted by secret ballot during the referendum. This was 91.55 % of the total population eligible to participate. 71.79 % voted in favour of the amendments and 23.53% registered a vote against. After the referendum, the changes were introduced to the "Law on Elections of the President of RT", and the "Law on Elections to Majlisi Oli". With these new laws, the democratisation of the electoral system of Tajikistan became legitimate.

#### **The basis of elections: multi party**

## **alternatives**

In accordance with the Constitution of the RT, each citizen has the right to participate in the formation of a political party. For the formation of any political party, it is necessary that 1,000 people support the application and every party has to be registered in the Ministry of Justice. The party system within Tajikistan is still in its infancy. Six political parties participated in the parliamentary elections. These were the Democratic Party, the Communist Party, the Peoples Democratic Party, the Socialist Party, the Party of Islamic Revival, and the Party of Justice.

A number of other parties did not participate in the recent parliamentary elections, as they were either not registered in the Ministry of Justice or had no time to do so. However, some of them are functioning without official registration.

During the election each party published its own electoral material, detailing its activities and beliefs. The non governmental mass media also provided the electorate with information concerning the different parties. These sources included the newspapers "Asia-plus", "Business and Politika", "Vahdat" and others.

The participation of six parties and independent candidates ensured plurality. However, in general, electoral campaigning was low-key. Electoral advertising, such as posters and brochures, was poorly presented and not widely distributed. Thus, it is possible to say that there is a multiparty system in Tajikistan, but the extent of its impact remains ambiguous.

Various public movements are also playing an important role in the process of democratisation of Tajikistan. These movements include the Congress of Peoples Unity, the National Movement of Tajikistan, and the Movement of National Unity and Revival.

## **2.2 Elections of the President of the RT**

New elections of the President of RT were held in November 6, 1999. The Constitution of the RT of 1999 states that "any citizen aged between 35 and 65 years, who knows the state (Tajik) language and who has been living in the county for not less than the last 10 years, can be nominated for the post of the President of RT". Nomination of candidates to the post of the President is democratic. Nationality, ethnic origin, and religion are not barriers to selection. However, in order to be nominated, an individual must collect the signatures of not less than 5% of voters. Article 66 then states: "The candidate is elected to the post of the President of RT if over half of the voters voted for him". The President is elected for a term of office lasting 7 years.

In 1999, for the first time in the history of Tajikistan, all political parties were given the right to nominate Presidential candidates. Two candidates were admitted by the Central Electoral Commission to the elections, the former President nominated by Peoples Democratic Party, and the serving Minister of Economics, representing the Party of Islamic Revival. The electoral turn out was high, with 98.91% of those eligible to vote participating. Of these, 96.97% voted for Rakhmonov and 2.11% voted for D. Ismonov.

## **2.3 Legislative power**

### **Elections to Majlisi Oli**

The draft of the new "Law on Elections to Majlisi Oli" was prepared by CNR, as was stipulated by the "The Protocol of Political Guarantees for the Preparation of Parliamentary Elections", signed by the President of RT and the Leader of UTO in November 5, 1999.

A new Law "On Election to Majlisi Oli of RT" was adopted in December 10, 1999 at the session of Majlisi Oli. This law laid the foundations for Tajikistan's first elections to a professional Parliament on democratic principles. The new Majlisi Oli consists of two Chambers - the Chamber of

Representatives (Majlisi Namoyandagon), which sits on a regular basis and the National Chamber (Majlisi Milli), which sits only when convened to do so. The functions of two Chambers are defined by the Constitution.

### **Majlisi Namoyandagon (Chamber of Representatives)**

The Chamber of Representatives of the Parliament of Tajikistan was elected by secret ballot on the 27th February 2000 for 5 years. The elections were held on the basis of both majority vote and proportional representation. Unlike the past, there were no quotas for particular groups such as women. The 63 electorates (22 by party list and 41 by majority) were contested by 331 nominees. The elections were held in two stages. 60 deputies were elected in the first stage and in three districts the elections were conducted again. A total of 6 political parties participated in the parliamentary elections. Only 3 parties were successful in achieving more than 5% of the vote, the Communist party, the Party of Islamic Revival, the People's Democratic Party. A total of 2,683,010 citizens participated in the elections, that is 93.3 % of those eligible to vote. 200 international experts observed the elections.

The Majlisi Namoyandagon works in sessions, which are held once a year from October to June. The Chamber has nine committees on: Economy, Budget and Finance; Constitutional Order; Governance and Management; Agriculture and Employment; International Affairs, Public Associations, and Information; Education, Culture and Youth Policy; Family and Ecology; Order and Defence; Energy, Industry, Construction and Communication. In addition, there are two commissions, one concerned for timetable and timekeeping of parliamentary activities, and the other with the ethics of its members.

The Committees drafts laws, amendments and additions to the laws,

### **The Chamber of Representatives**

The main functions of the Majlisi Namoyandagon are:

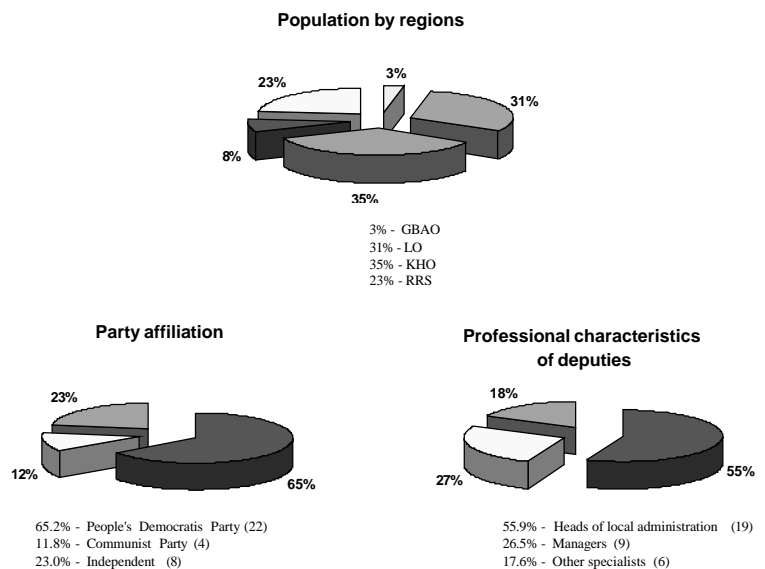
- Form the Central Electoral Commission for elections and referendums;
- Adopt the laws by a simple majority and the adopt the constitutional laws by a majority of 2/3 of Deputies;
- Ratify or decline the international agreements;
- Forward the proposals to conduct a referendum;
- Form the courts;
- Approve the economic programmes;
- Approve and monitor the budget;
- Authorise the extension and receipt of the state credits;
- Approve state awards.

and monitor their implementation.

### **New opportunities**

The majority of citizens have the right to be registered as a candidate to become a Deputy. According to the Law «On Elections to Majlisi Oli», Deputies should be "citizens aged not less than 25 years and with a higher education". To register as a candidate, applicants need to write a statement concerning their desire to participate in the elections, and they also need to collect at least 500 signatures in support of their

Chart 1. Composition of the legislative body  
Majlisi Milli (34 members)



application. The Central Electoral Commission may randomly check the validity of the signatures, and if over 3% of the signatures are found to be false the applicant will be refused registration. In order to be elected, the candidate needs to obtain more than 50% of the popular vote.

### **Majlisi Milli (The National Chamber)**

The National Chamber is partly elected and partly appointed. It functions on a convening basis. It has 33 members: 25% are appointed by the President and 75% are elected by the majority in a secret ballot at the joint meeting of all local Majlisis in the 5 oblasts of Badakhshan, LO, KHO, RRS and Dushanbe. Former Presidents may also be members of Majlisi Milli, if they wish. To qualify as a member, candidates need to be aged 35 years and over, have a higher education, and have been a citizen of the country for at least the last 7 years.

The main functions of Majlisi Milli are:

- Form, dissolve, and change the boundaries of the administrative territorial units;
- Approve or decline the laws, adopted by Majlisi Namoyandagon;
- Appoint and recall the Chairperson, Deputies and Jury of the Constitutional and Supreme Courts by the proposal of the President;
- Authorise the appointment and removal of the Attorney General and its Deputies.

The Majlisi milli is convened at least twice a year. It is written into its constitution that one of the Deputy Chairman of Majlisi Milli should be elected from Gorno-Badakhshan.

The Majlisi Milli has 5 committees: Economy and Communication; Constitutional Rights and Order; Agrarian issues, Employment and Ecology; Social issues, Health, Science, Culture, Women, and Youth policy; Coordination of the Majlisi Milli and Majlisi Namoyandagon, Public unions, the Mass Media and the International Relations. In addition, there is a

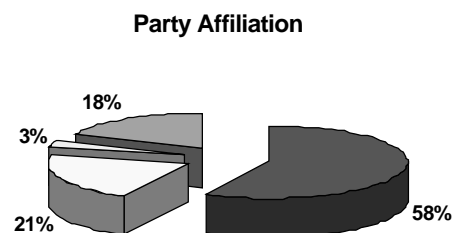
commission concerned with the timetable and timekeeping of parliamentary activities, and the ethics of the Chamber members.

### **The Legislative process**

These two Chambers form the supreme legislative body - Majlisi Oli, or Parliament of the RT. Joint sessions of the Majlisi Milli and the Majlisi Namoyandagon are convened to: approve the Presidential Decrees; authorise the outside use of the armed forces of the RT for international commitments; approve the appointment or removal of the Prime Minister and other members of the Government; and to appoint Presidential elections. The President of RT has called the first joint session in April 27, 2000.

The right to initiate legislation is entitled, by the Constitution of the RT, to the members of Majlisi Milli, the Deputies of Majlisi Namoyandagon, the President of RT, the Government of RT, the local Majlisi of Deputies of Badakhshan, the Constitutional Court,

Chart 2. Majlisi Namoyandagon (61deputies)



57.4% - Peoples' Democratic Party (35)

21.3% - Communist Party (13)

3.3% - Party of Islamic Revival (2)

18.0% - Independent (11)

the Supreme Court, and the Higher Economic Court. Laws must first be adopted by the majority of the Majlisi Namoyandagon. According to Article 60 of the Constitution, the Laws are then submitted to the Majlisi Milli and are approved if the majority of Majlisi Milli vote for them. In the case of decline the law is reviewed for the second time by the Majlisi Namoyandagon. Where the Majlisi Namoyandagon does not agree with the Majlisi Milli, a law can still be passed provided that on its

second reading 2/3 of deputies of Majlisi Namoyandagon vote for it.

Each chamber has its own administration. Complaints and proposals are first sent to the general department and then to the committees. Majlisi Oli has its newspaper "Sadoi Mardum" (The Voice of People).

#### **Who are the new parliamentarians?**

In November 2000, there were a total of 95 parliamentarians within the two Chambers of the Majlisi Oli, 61% of them specialised in humanities and 39% - in science. Women make up 13%, and national minorities - 7.5%. About 30% have an academic degree. The Deputies come from a wide range of professions, including economists, teachers, lawyers, engineers and other specialists.

#### **2.4 Executive power**

A Presidential system of government has been adopted in the Republic of Tajikistan. According to the Constitution, the President of the RT is both the head of the State and of the Government. The President has the right to issue Decrees and orders on almost any social issue. He appoints and removes the Prime Minister and other members of the Government, by the approval of the Parliament. The Government, at the same time, is responsible for the efficient management of the economy and social spheres, and for the implementation of the laws and resolutions of Majlisi Oli and Decrees of the President of the RT. Members of the Government cannot be at the same time members of the legislative bodies.

The Government in accordance with the Constitution and the laws of the RT, issues resolutions and orders. The implementation of these is obligatory. It submits its social and economic programmes to Majlisi Oli for approval as well the extension and receipt of state credits issues, economic assistance to other countries, public budget draft, and public budget deficit and the information on the sources to cover it.

#### **2.5 Judicial power**

Judicial power in the RT is exercised by the Constitutional Court, the Supreme Court, the Higher Economic Court, the Military Court, the Court of GBAO, oblast, urban and regional courts, and the court of Dushanbe.

The President of the Republic of Tajikistan presents to Majlisi Milli the list of the candidates for the positions of the Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, lawyers of the Constitutional Court, Supreme Court and Higher Economic Court, and the Council of Justice.

Judges of the Military Court, Court of GBAO, oblast, regional, urban and of Dushanbe, and the Economic courts are appointed and dismissed by the President of the RT upon the proposal of the Council of Justice. The judges are appointed for 5 years.

The Constitutional court consists of 7 members, one of which is a representative from GBAO. The members of the Constitutional court are elected from the body of judges and must be aged between 30 and 60 with at least 10 years of professional experience. The decisions of the Constitutional Court are final.

A judge should not hold any position in legislative and executive branches, be a Deputy of the representative bodies, a member of political party and movements, or be engaged in free enterprising. He can do research and teaching.

#### **2.6 Building democratic institutions**

The recent elections to the Majlisi Oli demonstrated that Tajikistan is looking forward to democratisation of all aspects of social life. The world community has noted the positive political changes in Tajikistan. The Secretary General of the UN, Kofi Annan, highlighted the significance of the participation of the formerly opposing sides in the elections, and also

the fact that the first multiparty elections in Tajikistan had been held in an environment free from violence. This is an important factor of human development and social cohesion. It marks the new institutional building.

A variety of international organisations provided technical assistance and support for political education programmes - both for the electorate in general and for the staff of the electorate commissions before the elections. IFES and UNMOT prepared an information brochure containing 50 questions and answers about the law "On Elections". OSCE conducted 100 seminars for training the electorate, and on the issues of democracy. Particular attention was paid to encouraging women to participate in the elections. UNMOT conducted 15 seminars in KHO and facilitated a TV information campaign that focussed on disseminating four main messages to the electorate: a) everyone was entitled to vote and should vote him/herself rather than let another person do it for them by proxy; b) in order to vote one would need to show the ID; c) balloting is secret; d) the importance of voting as democratic right. IFES also disseminated brochures and posters, conducted round tables for political parties and candidates, broadcasted 6 radio programmes, and 5 TV programmes. A manual on elections, prepared by joint efforts of UNMOT and IFES, was distributed to all polling stations. Election Day passed peacefully, despite some shortcomings and constraints caused by the lack of experience and training.

## **2.7 Recommendations:**

The Government of Tajikistan has taken an important step forward towards democracy. However, there is more work to be done:

- Define the tasks of the electorate commissions, state bodies and local administration for the elections period. Local power should not intervene in the electoral process;
- Expand activities presenting all parties in mass media;
- Expand the educational programme

for voters;

- Set up an Academy for the education of the professional parliament with the participation of international experts, UN and OSCE and others;
- Improve the laws "On Political Parties" and "On Elections";
- Promote the laws, related to democratisation and economic reforms, ensure the reduction of unemployment; and strengthen the social, education and health care services;
- Contribute to the creation of civil society institutions;
- Remove disparities which threaten democratic achievements;
- Protect an independent court system and independent mass media;
- Promote inclusive democracy, protecting minorities and marginal groups;
- Strengthen social and economic rights along with civil and political and rights;
- Deepen the achieved level of democracy;
- Expand education in all spheres of human rights.

## **2.8 Summary and concluding comments**

For the first time a multiparty political system is formed in the country and elections to a professional parliament were held on the alternative basis. For the first time a political Party of Islamic Revival is legally functioning. The main political parties and minorities are represented in the Government and in the Parliament. Civil society is growing and the number of functioning NGOs has increased.

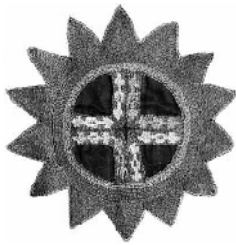
All these achievements expand the process of democratisation in the country. The Government, NGO, civil institutions and private sector need to continue to educate the population on the positive aspects of democratic development and to strengthen democratic values within society. The social adoption of democratic values depends on the level of political culture. The Year 2000 was announced as the Year of Culture and Peace.



Today 130 countries recognise Tajikistan's national sovereignty. Real cooperation has helped to establish diplomatic relations with many countries, and RT has made agreements on friendship with 40 countries, and has representation in 15. At present Tajikistan is a member of more than 50 international organizations and agencies. The opening in Tajikistan of the representations of the UN, and more than 40 major international organisations and NGOs shows that Tajikistan is taking its due place in the world community

The more Tajikistan will be involved in the democratic structures of the world community, the more the country will follow the democratic principles of political improvement.

The promotion of democratic changes in Tajikistan is taking place and it is important to speed up this process. To ordinary people, the advantages of democracy are not clear yet, as there are no significant economic achievements, and the living conditions of most people have not improved. The positive achievements of democratisation in Tajik society need to be made clear and simple, so that people can recognise the advantage of democratic development and the expansion of their economic and civil rights. NGOs and the mass media need to play an active role in this process. The building of civil society requires the activity of its citizens. Equally important will be the interaction of central and local government with NGOs. The future development of democracy will depend on the efficiency, transparency and sustainability of the state.



### 3. Strengthening Peace and Social Cohesion

Social cohesion is necessary for human development and the expansion of opportunities. 1999 was a year of Tajik nation, when peace was strengthened, and public accord achieved.

One of the important indicators of the establishment of public accord in Tajikistan was the celebration of the 1100th anniversary of Samanid State as the national festival of unification for Tajiks all over the world. This event had not only cultural and historical importance, but also political significance. It showed the desire of Tajiks to rejoice in the independence and integrity of the country. The celebration of 1100th anniversary of Samanid State became the result of the joint actions of various social and political groups within society.

1999 was the year when Tajik statehood transited from civil confrontation to social and political cooperation and democratic reform. In 1999, the process of national accord united the opposing forces. The mood of social cohesion was further supported by the activities of the mass media, NGOs, educational programmes, sport competitions, meetings and discussions. The messages on the importance of peace and national unity were disseminated across all the regions of the country, including remote areas. As these messages reached peoples' hearts, tension and fear turned into understanding and stability. National confidence was strengthened.

#### **3.1 The completion of the work of the Council for National Reconciliation**

In 2000, the CNR accomplished its functions for strengthening peace and accord within the country. Members of the Opposition were appointed to a number of Government posts, including the First Deputy Prime Minister, Deputy Prime Minister and 6 other ministers. In other ministries, including the Ministry of Defence, Foreign Affairs, Communication, and Social Protection members of the Opposition were appointed to the posts of

Deputy ministers. The Opposition also held the positions of the Deputy Chairman of Supreme Court, the General Prosecutor, Chairman of 5 committees - including the Customs committee, and the Administrators of 15 cities and districts.

After the elections, the opposition turned its activity away from political confrontation towards partnership and cooperation. This factor shows the public accord in Tajikistan. It also marks the completed transition from conflict to peace in the country.

One of the most important CNR activity had been the integration of the armed forces of opposition with the army of the Government. According to the signed agreements, the implementation of this term would provide a benchmark for the transition period to peace and development. According to the "General agreement" elections should be held only after the complete merger of the UTO forces with the national army. This required that both phases 3 and 4 of the military protocols should be fulfilled before new elections.

In 1999, as part of phase 3 of the military protocol, about 5,000 UTO ex-combatants passed through attestation commission to continue their military service within the national army. Fifty ex-combatants were recommended for higher command positions, and more than 1,000 were demobilized. After attestation of the armed forces in the Karategin valley and their integration with governmental structures, the UTO Presidium announced the disbandment of its armed forces. Carrying weapons in public places in rural and urban areas was banned as of July 20, 1999.

By the Resolution of Majlisi Oli, 6000 ex-combatants were exonerated. The process of full integration with government forces started in August 1999. Although the implementation of the 4th phase i.e. the completion of full integration had been

delayed, the peace process was irreversible, and the integration of some divisions within the government army laid the foundation for the final integration of both forces. Therefore, the conduct of the elections during the 3rd phase of the protocol was both possible and necessary.

In August 1999, the UTO officially declared the disbandment of their forces. The ban on the political parties, movements and mass media of the UTO was lifted. This created an enabling environment for their participation in the forthcoming political events.

The CNR activities laid the basis for peaceful progress in the Republic. When the new Majlisi Namoyandagon formed its managing bodies, the President of RT issued a Decree to close the CNR. This signalled the completion of the transition period and peace was restored.

The UN Security Council has also responded to the completion of the peace making period. In May 2000 it adopted the resolution to close the UNMOT Office in Tajikistan. However, to strengthen and promote peace in Tajikistan the UN Secretary General Kofi Annan made a decision to establish the United Nations Peace Building Office in Tajikistan (UNTOP).

### **3.2 Strengthening social fabric**

Social cohesion depends on the national unity of all the citizens. To achieve this, it is important that the interests of all the national minorities are taken into account in all sectors of social life. One of the most fundamental human rights is the right to communicate in your native language. Although the official language of Tajikistan is Tajik, in the towns and villages where the majority of the population is Uzbek or Kyrgyz, the Constitution has also laid the basis for conducting clerical work in the appropriate native language. Several members of minority groups were elected to the Majlisi Oli.

1999 has become the year of close cooperation not only between political parties, but also between all social strata of society. It is still necessary to combat

regionalism and religious discrimination. It should be noted that in the regions where the conflict was most severe, much success has been achieved. One of the important factors strengthening accord has been the freedom of religious beliefs. It is known, that more than 90% of the population of Tajikistan are Moslems. The national traditions of the Tajik nation are deeply intertwined with the Islamic culture. It is important that local authorities continue to ensure equal access to basic social services regardless of religious denomination. This will help to reduce the inequities between rich and poor, include marginal groups and overcome absolute poverty. Due to national accord have hundreds of thousands of refugees returned to their houses and restarted peaceful life.

### **3.3 Reintegration of ex-combatants**

The reintegration of ex-combatants into society will define the success of the peace process. With the Decree of the President of the RT of February 1999 "On formation temporary divisions of ex-combatants within the national armed forces", those ex-combatants who wanted to continue military service could join the national army subject to the approval of the qualification commission. Those ex-combatants who decided to leave a military career were demobilised and returned to civilian life. The reintegration of ex-combatants to civilian life remains the priority for strengthening peace.

Finding salaried jobs for all ex-combatants represents a major challenge for the Government. Following a Presidential Decree, which banned carrying weapon in public places, and discontinued the contractual services in the Armed forces, it is expected that in the second half of 2000 the number of those who will return to civilian life will increase to 2,000-3,000.

An important factor will be how well the ex-combatants adapt to their new life. In order to support this process a rehabilitation centre for ex-combatants has been established. The centre has served more than 730 UTO ex-combatants and to date mainly provides medical services. The Ministries of Defence and Health should give attention to the idea of expanding the capacity of the centre, both in terms of the number of clients it serves and



the range of services it provides.

International organisations have also rendered assistance in reintegration. UNDP through UNOPS has launched programmes on "Reconstruction, Rehabilitation and Development" and the "Reintegration of ex-combatants" in the Karategin and Khatlon areas.

The project on reintegration is aimed at strengthening the peaceful process by:

- Job creation for ex-combatants and vocational training;
- Reconstructing the damaged infrastructure (schools, hospitals, bridges, etc) for the benefit of the whole community;
- Creating sustainable employment opportunities. Reconstruction of markets, enterprises, along with micro credits for private business, provides people with the capacity to generate income;
- Creating mechanisms to attract ex-combatants into other programmes through consultative and reintegration committees.

Between 10 and 40 ex-combatants work in each re-integration project. They have mainly basic education and some work experience. During the implementation of the project, experts provided ex-combatants with training in some vocational skills, so that at the end of the project they could work as mechanics, drivers, clerks, plumbers, carpenters, and builders and hopefully obtain

a sustainable income. The former combatants were each paid an amount equivalent to \$50. One time allowance was paid for those ex-combatants, who had only military uniform, so that they could buy civilian clothes as some only had their military uniforms. War widows were also involved in the project activities.

In December 1999, in 75 projects in five regions of the Karategin valley 1,102 ex-combatants were temporary employed and acquired vocational skills. 272 local experts and specialists were invited to train them . 67 war widows with large families also received employment, mainly as cooks. Although the projects were mainly limited to men, women and children also benefited from income generated by the projects. It was estimated that the number of indirect beneficiaries was five times that of the direct beneficiaries as each ex-combatant supported, on average, a family of 5. In fact the number of indirect beneficiaries, is probably much greater. The reconstruction of schools, roads and hospitals improved the quality of life for the whole community.

The efficient reintegration of ex-combatants depends on the extent to which they are recognized as citizens of that society. It is important that they should feel part of the society and that other members of the community should accept them. The voluntary return of many to their villages reflects a certain confidence, but it does not mean the return of normality in the relations between returnees and other members of the community. That is why the programmes for returnees were designed to take into consideration the interests and benefits of the whole community. Such structures as roads, bridges, electricity lines, schools, workshops, dwelling houses, hospitals, markets, etc. were rehabilitated.

In the regions where these projects were implemented, district consultative committees were set up. These committees were composed of representatives of the local administration (hukumat), UNDP/UNOPS project staff, community groups and ex-combatants. They jointly identified the priorities for the project activities. This involvement in the decision-making process

helped to build confidence and restore community links. The access to legal employment and sources of income also provided ex-combatants with an alternative to becoming involved in drug trafficking and other illegal operations, with a positive impact on the stability in the region.

### 3.4 NGOs

Local NGOs are an important element of civil society and they are in constant touch with society and people. Human development in Tajikistan depends, in part, on the success of NGOs in attracting people and helping them to realise their potential. At present around 200 NGOs are actively functioning within Tajikistan. The activities of NGOs cover almost all spheres, dealing with social protection, education, health, ecology, gender, security and human rights. In many areas there is now close cooperation between Government and NGOs. For example, 60 NGOs whose main focus is on gender equity have contributed to the "National Plan for the Advancement of Women 1998-2005". NGOs with a focus on ecology are also very active. In 1999, they conducted various activities to prevent land salination, co-operated with the Government on the ecological education of youth, and with national and international experts in the problems of Lake Sarez.

NGOs in Tajikistan have actively contributed to peace and stability. Many of them signed the "Agreement on the Public Accord in Tajikistan". NGOs on human rights contribute to legal literacy. They publish promotional brochures and books on the main principles on human rights, as specified in the international documents, as well as conduct seminars, round tables, and trainings.

The main problem of NGOs within Tajikistan is the lack of financial resources and the complicated procedure of registration. The Government can support them by simplifying the registration procedure. Active contacts between NGOs and private sector may also provide NGOs with alternative sources of finance.

### 3.5 Mass media

The mass media can play an important role in strengthening national unity. Press, radio

and television are the main sources of information about, and within, the country. Article 30 of the Constitution of the RT guarantees the freedom of speech and the law "On Press and Mass Media" guarantees press freedom.

TV remains the main source of information. There is an interstate teleradio company "Mir" and 14 TV channels. State radio and TV disseminate information to almost all the country. Current events are transmitted in Tajik, Russian, Uzbek and English. Currently, there are no private radio stations in Tajikistan, although the law "On TV and Radio-broadcasting" stipulates their establishment. Some private regional TV stations function locally. However, due to the financial constraints, there are no republic-wide private TV channels. 78% of population also watch Russian channels and programmes.

Tajik State TV provides the population with information on all aspects of the social and economic life of the country, reforms, and various initiative taken by the population. Tajik TV has tried to improve the quality of programmes and provides a choice of youth, education, sport and entertainment programmes. During the electoral campaign, Tajik State TV gave free time to all political parties and candidates and transmitted a set of training and information programmes for the electorate (such as "Elections and Society", "Elections and Youth", "Human beings and Law") to explain the new law on elections. The population of the country perceives Tajik State TV as providing the official point of view. In 1999 a programme "Vahdat" ("Unity") was launched, in which representatives of former opposition participated.

The print media is also very important in Tajikistan. It is estimated that 126 newspapers and journals are in print, although the print runs, particularly for journals, are often very small. According to the SSA data in 1999, 58 newspapers were published. Of these, 40 newspapers are in Tajik, 9 in Russian, and 9 in other languages. Four have a Republic wide circulation, 5 are oblast wide, 31 are local papers, 8 provide mainly information and advertisements, 3 are

private, and 7 are published by various political parties and movements. A number of private publication units have also been established, supported by international sponsors.

There are three professional organisations of journalists in the country which are non-governmental. In general the standard of newspapers and journals and their impact on the population has increased. However, the sector still needs to be strengthened. It remains the case that not all of the population in the regions has access to TV, radio and newspapers, and that newspapers are often subject to serious delays in delivery to remote parts of the country. Furthermore, many people cannot afford to buy a newspaper and are excluded from access to an important source of information.

In recent years public opinion surveys have become popular in Tajikistan. The mass media regularly publishes the results of public opinion surveys carried out by information agencies and centres of sociological studies. However, the results are often published in periodicals with small print runs or only local circulation, making it difficult for the information to reach the public at large. One suggestion is to establish an independent national centre to study public opinion and to disseminate the results to a wide audience.

Tajikistan has started on the road of democratisation, and expansion of democratisation will expand access to information. The opportunities for population to use e-mail facilities are expanding. A number of private centres have been set up to provide access to the Internet, such as "Tajiktel", "Vavilon", "Intercom", "Telecomm Technology" and others. However, access remains limited to a small number of users, both due to the technical constraints and, more importantly, to the high cost involved.

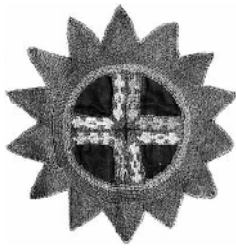
To ensure wider access to the global information network, exchange of information and the implementation of modern technologies, in September 16, 1999 the President of the RT signed a Decree "On Measures to Ensure Access to Global Information Network". In 1999 the first website pages about Tajikistan were created. Thus, the Webpages "The National Press Review" was opened.

### **3.6 Traditional institutions of local governance**

The traditional institutions of local governance such as the mahalla (urban community) have served to strengthen social cohesion. In the years of civil confrontation, these structures helped to save the lives of thousands of ordinary people. The mahalla are also well placed to assess which families are at risk of food insecurity and are active in working with international NGOs to ensure food sufficiency within these families. The expansion of traditional systems of local governance is a positive sign on the path to decentralisation in Tajikistan.

### **3.7 Recommendations**

- Provide smooth reintegration of ex-combatants in society by creating job opportunities and providing access to medical service and education;
- Government should cooperate more closely with NGOs and involve them in various governmental projects;
- Continue to expand access to alternative sources of information to support the democratisation of society, i.e. by giving licenses for private radio and TV broadcasting stations;
- Reforms of the mass media should be coordinated with reforms in other sectors.
- Stimulate the private sector to support NGOs and the mass media;
- Simplify the procedure for registration of NGOs within the Ministry of Justice.



## 4. Education

Previously, Tajikistan had performed well against indicators of educational performance. However, during the 1990s educational performance has worsened as a result of a shrinking budget, low salaries, brain drain of teachers, lack of textbooks, destruction of infrastructure especially in the zones where military activities took place, and low school attendance.

According to IMF and WB surveys, nearly 20% of schools were destroyed, and more than 130 buildings are now in need of repair. The war has impacted not only on the physical infrastructure, but also on the capabilities of children. The war also distorted youth behaviour and deepened intolerance. In sum, the process of human development was arrested.

Education is the foundation of a civilized society, and fosters the development of the spirit and the intellectual potential of the nation. The destruction of the educational system implies the destruction of the basis of the nation. The expansion of education will lead to the prosperity of the nation. All levels of educational institutions are part of the nation's wealth. In the immediate aftermath of the war in Tajikistan much attention was paid to restructuring infrastructure and to long-term economic development. Currently the main task of society is to strengthen education and to enhance the value of education as a contribution to sustainable development.

### 4.1 Strategic aims and tasks

The real wealth of a country is its people. The education system enables people to participate as citizens and thinkers and creators. The collapse of the Soviet Union has created a paradigm shift in terms of how people should function within their society, with less emphasis on the mechanical execution of their roles. Hence,

new approaches to education are urgently required.

- The first task is to encourage respect for the social values and human rights. Looking beyond, the task is to enable the people of Tajikistan to live, create and interact freely as global citizens.
- The second task is to produce highly qualified and responsible citizens, with a wide range of skills, so as to develop the knowledge, skills and flexibility to adjust to the current and future demands of society.
- The third task is to provide educational opportunities to all, at all stages of the life cycle.

Access to education is guaranteed under the Constitution of RT. There are two relevant laws, "On Education", and the "Concept of School Education" and other acts. The Government has reinstated a four level system of education, consisting of preschool education, secondary education, special secondary colleges and vocational schools, and higher educational establishments. In accordance with Article 41 of the Constitution, general education is free and compulsory for all children

A number of indicators point to an improving situation through, the restoration of ruined schools, the training of experts, and an increasing number and



quality of higher and secondary special professional establishments. During the transition the status of higher education seems to have increased. The competition for university places is high. The overall rate of tertiary education enrolment is high.

At the same time problems persist: some children from poor families, particularly girls, do not attend primary schools as they have no clothes and shoes.

The reforms in education aim to adjust RT's national standards of education to international ones. A number of specific measures have been taken to bring about this change:

a) The aims and content of educational programs have been drastically changed.

b) A number of structural reforms are being implemented:

- New types of schools are being created such as schools-lyceums, gymnasiums, colleges, as well as institutions like "school-kindergartens", "gymnasiums-universities", and "universities-lyceums-colleges";
- A multilevel system of higher education introduced with the qualification of Master of Arts (Sciences) and Bachelor degrees;
- Some technical schools and colleges are integrated into the universities to provide initial professional training;
- In addition to Government educational establishments, a number of private and non governmental schools, colleges, Universities and educational centres are set up, as well as inter-State institutions such as the Tajik-Russian Slavonic University, Tajik Turkish lyceum, Tajik American Universities.

c) The legislative framework is in place:

- In accordance with the "Law on Education", major reforms have been initiated regarding the decentralisation of the management of educational establishments;
- Resolutions on educational establishments have been renewed;
- A State Qualification Commission has

been set up;

- A legal basis has been set up for attestation, accreditation and licensing of educational establishments.

d) New policies on financing education are in place:

- The legal basis for multi-financing has been established and is now operational;
- The first steps have been taken towards improving the financing of education, both from the public budget and from non-budgetary sources such as parents' resources, grants, stipends, donations, credit and support of donors;
- The share of the officially paid training has increased;
- Resolutions of the Government on social protection of teachers have been adopted. Their salary will increase by 40% on the annual basis.

The Government, national and international organizations are all striving to ensure that access to education is independent of nationality, gender, residence, social and income status. In this process it is hoped to regain some of the previous achievements of the education system.

#### **4.2 Preschool education**

There are currently 523 preschool establishments in the RT. During the transition it has been difficult to sustain preschool establishments out of the central budget. The number of children of pre-school age is more than one million. Between 1990 and 1998, the number of preschool establishments has fallen by 40%, and the number of children registered in them has dropped by two-thirds, from 150,000 to 53,000. The decline in enrolment is the result of the deterioration of the quality of services and the collapse of the infrastructure, combined with an increase in charges, which are no longer affordable by parents with low incomes. The Ministry of Education is taking active measures to reform preschool educational establishments.

#### **4.3 Secondary education**

There are 3,551 full-time secondary schools and in 1999-2000 there were 1,464,900

Table 1. Educational enrolment (%)

<sup>1</sup>	Educational enrolment.	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
1	Primary education (age group 7-11)	71.02	72.44	77.24	75.38	78.94
2	Basic education (age group 7-15 )	86.51	85.42	87.50	89.09	79.44
3	Secondary education (age group 15-18)	38.67	41.72	34.08	30.92	39.04
4	Secondary professional education (15-18 )	8.78	6.57	6.18	5.40	4.27
(SSA)						

students in secondary schools, of which 1,400 pupils were in schools for the disabled.

Primary education is the main focus of education in RT. There is a general awareness of the benefits of primary education in the population. Children usually start primary school at the age of 7, although sometimes the school

Table 2. Preschool establishments

	1995	1999
Number	555	523
Urban	406	387
Rural	149	136
Number of children ( thous)	78.0	51.6
Of which girls	20.5	23.3
Enrolment (%)	9.4	5.4
Urban	33.4	19.9
Rural	2.5	1.3
Seats per 100 children	90	77

(SSA)

administration accepts children from age 6 in response to the wishes of parents. As economic conditions improve, education in future will start from age 6 and the period of education will extend to 12 years. Primary education enrolment is a priority for the Government of RT.

A joint effort by various actors in RT has achieved a basic enrolment level of 1.4 million pupils. The implementation of programs in education funded by the WB, the IDB the ADB has allowed more than 100 thousand children to go to school. The World Bank education sector project is rehabilitating 20 pilot schools. The same project is organising the publication of modern textbooks, working with parents, students and communities to make sure that materials are relevant.

For the first time in the Republic, talented children are receiving special attention. There are now special secondary schools,

such as lyceums and gymnasiums that work with talented and gifted children . These schools also provide specialized study of various subjects in humanity, arts, science, language and technical subjects. According to data from the SSA, there are 8 private schools in Tajikistan in which 828 pupils study.

Many challenges remain. The number of orphans has grown as a result of the conflict and poor economic situation. According to UNICEF data, in 1995 there were 60,000 orphans in Tajikistan. In the last two years more than 10 boarding schools for such children have been opened, but it is impossible to help all of them and



educate them from the state budget. For example, in just 24 regions of KHO there are 30,7 thousand orphans. To meet the needs of these children, there would need to be 150 educational establishments with 200 children in each. Such a situation is hard to envisage in the current economic circumstances. One of the alternative is that families and individuals take care of them.

The problem of street children is a real one. A pressing question is how to manage the school enrolment of refugee children who have been repatriated. In 1997-1998 in KHO alone, there were about 4,190 school children from repatriated refugees families.

Table 3. Main indicators of educational development in RT

Number of schools	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Secondary schools, of which	3,450	3,470	3,524	3,560	3,591
Full time:	3,406	3,432	3,484	3,522	3,551
Part time: (shifts)	44	38	40	38	40
Students thousand	1,322.8	1,340.9	1,388.9	1,451.3	1,479.3
Full time	1,310.1	1,327.3	1,374.0	1,436.6	1,464.9
Part time:	12.7	13.6	14.9	14.5	14.4
New seats in secondary schools	3,151	1,637	4,141	3,231	3,285

(SSA)

Tajikistan is a multi-ethnic state. The Government respects the principle of conserving the national and linguistic customs of minorities and education is provided in Tajik, Uzbek, Russian, Kyrgyz and Turkmen languages. Out of 3,591 secondary schools in the RT, instruction in the Tajik language is carried out in 2,318 schools, in Uzbek in 1,081 schools, in Russian and bi-languages in 144 schools, in Kyrgyz in 41 schools and in Turkmen in 7 schools.

### THE AGA KHAN HUMANITIES PROJECT

The Aga Khan Humanities Project (AKHP) is a regional education project based in Dushanbe and serving Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan. Its fundamental aim is to encourage tolerance, respect for diversity, rational discussion, aesthetic appreciation, problem-solving, and ethical reflection, by drawing upon the cultures of the region. The AKHP sees these skills as vital for the development of national consciousness that is pluralistic, using a pedagogy that gets students to think for themselves by drawing upon the best of the past. The project focuses on the foundations for good citizenship. All the material focuses on a thematic understanding of the human being. The themes are:

- The Human Being as the Object of Cognition, Human Diversity and Human Ideals;
- The Responsibility of the Individual to Community, Society and Environment;
- Art and the Human Condition;
- Culture, Tradition and Innovation;
- Formal and Informal Traditions in Culture;
- The Rise and Decline of Civilisation.

The AKHP works by encouraging Central Asians to develop curriculum material and by training teachers in innovative pedagogies, and then piloting the curriculum in nine universities, including five in Tajikistan. A crucial aspect of implementation is the collaboration with the Ministry of Education and the strong commitment of the Rectors of the universities.

This year, in collaboration with the Ministry of Education, the project selected eight teachers from the pre-school to the high school level to develop a plan for expansion to the school systems of Central Asia.

Dr. Rafique Keshavjee, Director, Aga Khan Humanities Programme

After independence, the Ministry of education reviewed a number of textbooks and manuals for secondary schools. 50 books were sent for reprinting, which is slowly being carried out due to the lack of paper. The lack of textbooks has impacted on the quality of education. International organisations have rendered assistance. In 1998, UNICEF supported a project to publish 11 textbooks for primary classes.

Table 4. Number of gymnasiums, lyceums and students in them.

	1995	1999
	1996	2000
Number of gymnasiums:	1	24
Number of students in them	300	11,016
Number of lyceums	5	49
Number of students	1,694	12,167

(SSA)

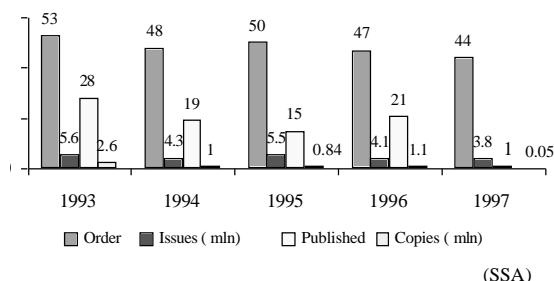
In 1999, a World Bank project commenced with the aim of printing of 18 textbooks.

Gender equality is a particular area of concern. The economic and social hardships of transition have negatively impacted on women. In the RT, gender equality is enshrined in law but in reality men and women may experience very different outcomes. There is a marked decline in school attendance amongst girls after form 9. This is more of a problem in rural than in urban areas.

Traditional constraints are part of the story of gender inequality. The President has issued a Decree "On Advancement of Women in Tajikistan" in 1999, that aims to increase the role of women in the society. A number of activities are planned to ensure the implementation of this Decree and a national program to improve the status of women in all spheres of life is being developed. Quotas for rural girls are

effective for university enrolment. The Committee for Women and Family has set up courses to train women to become future leaders. UNDP, through the Women in Development Bureau, supports a number of Learning Centres to train women-leaders.

Chart 1. Publication of textbook and manuals



#### 4.4 Training of personnel for education

The training of personnel in the education sector will have a multiplier effect and enhance the potential for development. The type of education that RT requires has changed, and it is necessary to update teachers' qualifications, and introduce more interactive methods of training and education. To meet these needs the Ministry of Education in 1999 has changed the content of education syllabuses, new colleges were established and a new cycle of retraining of secondary school teachers started.

Today the teachers are trained in five pedagogical universities, in the Institute of Languages, in the Tajik State National University, in three pedagogical colleges and eleven pedagogical special schools.

The total number of teachers has increased as a result of setting up a one-year pedagogical course for the secondary schools graduates and those who had no previous pedagogical education, as well as retired teachers, and university graduates. At the same time the low salaries in education sector remains a very serious issue.

#### 4.5 Secondary special professional training

Secondary special professional training gives students after ninth grade the opportunity to acquire a profession and enter the university. The spectrum of secondary, special and educational schools consists of colleges, technical schools, vocational schools, and colleges of various types.

Currently, the number of experts with secondary special professional education is not high, at 10 per 10,000 population. The lack of such experts is most obvious in small and medium businesses, services and technology related businesses. In view of this shortage of experts, the majority of technical schools and colleges have switched to new plans and curricula. Testing has been widely implemented. Training for a first professional qualification is free, and for the second, and beyond should be paid for from extra budgetary sources.

A system for retraining is now in place. Retraining provides access to qualifications and professions, which can improve a job seeker's prospects in the market economy.

Vocational schools aim to help children from poor families to obtain basic professions. Vocational schools are based on the curriculum of the secondary school, but there some groups, which provide only vocational training. Vocational schools are financed from the public budget. The vocational school students are provided with free meals, it is a big support for poor families.

The national crafts training centres (carving, wall painting, pottery, embroidery). Vocational schools face financial difficulties, as the state budget have no required resources to invest into modernisation of the training computer experts, radiotechnicians and other

Table 5. The number of teachers in secondary school by level of education in 1999

Total, thousand	Higher	Incomplete higher	Secondary and professional	% women
96,8	61	4,5	30,5	43,9

(SSA)

Table 6. Breakdown of secondary students by grades (without handicapped), thousands

Grades	1995-1996		1997-1998		1998-1999		1999-2000	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
1	88.7	85.2	93.8	87.0	92.7	85.3	89.6	81.4
2	95.1	83.9	86.3	85.0	93.6	85.3	92.5	84.6
3	67.3	62.3	86.7	81.0	87.9	81.3	92.7	84.5
4	67.1	62.7	87.4	79.6	85.1	79.0	88.8	77.7
5	75.4	72.3	64.2	58.3	85.2	77.5	83.6	77.7
6	71.9	71.0	64.9	58.9	63.1	55.7	83.8	77.2
7	29.2	29.5	74.0	65.9	62.5	56.2	61.1	74.8
8	65.3	59.7	69.7	63.0	71.0	62.7	62.0	53.5
9	56.8	54.8	29.8	25.0	66.6	58.4	67.9	58.1
10	33.2	24.4	36.6	23.6	19.0	11.9	40.1	28.8
11(12)	31.5	21.4	31.6	19.7	33.2	21.1	17.7	10.4
Total	681.5	627.2	725.0	647.0	760.0	674.5	679.9	683.5

(SSA)

Table 7. Secondary professional educational establishments

Number	1995-1996	1996-1997	1997-1998	1998-1999	1999-2000
Secondary professional educational establishments	44	47	44	42	42
Students in them, thousand	26.8	23.5	19.9	19.4	23.2
Of which women, thousand	12.6	11.7	9.6	9.6	11.6
% of total	47	50	48	48	50

(SSA)

technical specialists that the country needs.

Vocational schools also function on a fee-paying basis, but the number of students who are able to pay is low. The number of students, enrolled on contractual basis, has dropped from 858 in 1995 to 513 in 1999. In general, paid education is still underdeveloped. Employment and vocational centres should improve their efficiency.

#### 4.6 Higher education

Higher education is highly valued in the RT. The speed of change is so fast that access to new knowledge and skills is required on an on-going basis. The demand for higher education is growing. The nature of demand for education differs from that of 5-10 years ago. Today demand is centered on developing professional skills, and on preparing people to be responsible citizens.

In recent years there has been a concerted effort to reform the higher education system in line with changes in political, economic and social life and with the aim

of integrating it into the world education system. The legal basis for reforming higher education was created through the following laws: the Law on "Education", on "Regulations for Higher Educational Establishment", on "State Standard of Higher Education, "Requirements for the Content and Level of Graduate Training", "Branches and Specialties of Higher Education" and others.

The higher education standards stipulate:

- A multilevel system of training of specialties, which is flexible enough to adjust to the demands of the market and other changes;
- Integration of specialised secondary schools should be integrated with universities, to improve the quality of education;
- Academic mobility, and training of specialists on various levels according to the individual abilities and characteristics of students;
- The possibilities exist to continue training and university education in other universities abroad and in the CIS. This is important for RT, where training is focussed on a few specialties.

In the modern world the potential to spread information is one indicator of the degree of economic development of society.

Table 8. Vocational schools

Number	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Vocational schools	74	74	72	72	72
Students	3,057	2,758	2,598	2,468	2,382

(SSA)

Table 9. Higher educational establishments

	1995-1996	1996-1997	1997-1998	1998-1999	1999-2000
Number	24	25	25	24	29
Students thousands	74.0	76.0	76.7	75.5	79.2
Full time	53.4	52.4	51.2	49.9	50.6
Women thousands	19.9	19.6	20.0	19.4	19.9
Extramural	20.6	23.6	25.5	25.6	28.6

(SSA)

Table 10. Breakdown of the number of students, thousand , by specialities in 1999-2000

Specialities	Enrolment.	Graduated	Total number of students, of which women	
Total	17,079	13,102	78,790	19,892
Natural and scientific	2,357	1,762	9,779	5,947
Humanities and social	5,998	3,269	26,661	8,370
Education	1,093	1,176	5,811	1,444
Health	781	1,103	4,377	1,633
Culture and art	365	189	1,158	210
Economics and management	4,257	3,509	20,043	4,545
Natural and technical	152	86	615	133
Radio-technique and communication	31	9	200	18
Informatisation	221	26	578	120
Agriculture and fishery	676	819	3,906	117
Ecology and use of nature		26	57	9
Other	1,148	1,128	5,605	2,654

(SSA)

Information technology has enhanced the spread of information worldwide. However, many teachers and scholars in RT currently feel an information vacuum in their activities. To overcome this situation, the Association for the Development of Science and Education was set up in 1999. This public organisation aims to disseminate information to universities and to the regions. Eight universities are members of this Association. they are State National University, Pedagogical University, Technical University, Agrarian University, Medical University, Tajik-Russian Slavonic University, Technological University, and Commercial University. In December 1999, the Academy of Sciences became an honorary member of this association. The national company "Telecom Technology" supports the Association by donating Internet time to these universities and to the Academy. The programme "Life, Technology, Science and Computers Network" supported a project to create an academic university computer network in Tajikistan. This will permit many students and teachers to gain experience of the Internet, and may lead to the introduction of new technologies.

Higher education faces many problems, the main one is inadequate financing. This has caused a brain drain, and undermined efforts to improve teachers' qualifications. The current national economy produces few job opportunities for graduates.

### Best experience

The Tajik Technical University currently offers specialist training at various levels depending on individual ability and other characteristics of students, from junior specialist and bachelor to specialist with diploma and masters. To provide this multilevel education, a number of secondary special schools (colleges) were incorporated into the structure of the University. Basic university training takes two years. Colleges follow the same curricula as universities, and the graduates of colleges may continue their education in the University from year 3. This system provides the opportunity for college students who have completed two years to go on to the University. With this aim in mind the University introduced a rating system to assess the academic performance of students as a way of screening access to further training. There is a department for pre-university training in the University, a lyceum, and preparatory classes. Postgraduate courses include a

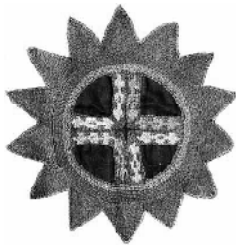
A distance learning programme was set up in the Technical University as a result of a cooperation agreement between Moscow Institute of Economics and Statistics and the Tajik Technical University in 1999. As a result citizens of Tajikistan can participate in new programmes without leaving the country and get the certificates and diplomas of Moscow Institute of Economics and Statistics. Negotiations are underway with Moscow Energy University and Moscow Construction University. This is very important for the RT, as it creates the possibility to access education programmes in specialties from outside the country. Distance learning helps also handicapped people to get education.

doctorate course, graduate courses, and advanced courses for teachers and specialists. Separate university departments and institutes are also planned such as the Institutes of Energy, Communication, Technology, Metallurgy and Transport. An agreement has been made on cooperation between the Academic Institution and the Tajik Technical University. In 1999, a system of academic chairs was set up in the Institute of Chemistry. There is also an agreement to set up a chair of seismology. Other universities in Tajikistan are now engaging in similar activities.

## Recommendations

- Improve the efficient use of available resources to provide equal access by all groups to education;
- Ensure basic education as a priority; primary schools should be provided with textbooks free of charge;
- Continue activities on the rehabilitation of the infrastructure;
- Promote further public awareness of the role of education for poverty reduction;
- Introduce modern technology to integrate the national education system into the global system;
- The Ministry of Education should take measures to improve the quality of training, and increase teachers salaries;
- In pre-school education, the main attention should be given to the physical and moral training of children;
- In secondary schools the main principle should be "Education for all". The network of the alternative education should be expanded;
- In the system of special and vocational education the curricula should be reoriented to reflect the demands of the market;
- It is important to promote quotas for the girls from rural areas in tertiary education;
- The Government and NGOs should pay particular attention to encouraging school attendance by children from poor families and should provide them with free textbooks and tuition.





## 5. Culture and Sport

Tajikistan is a country with an ancient culture and age-old values and traditions. Culture has played an important role in the achievement of peace and social cohesion within Tajikistan. The country's traditions and values have brought people together and formed the foundations for sustainable peace. Tajik culture is unique and should be preserved for future generations.

### 5.1 The 1100th anniversary of Samanids

The brightest cultural events in Tajikistan during 1999 were the 1100th anniversary of Samanids and the 8th anniversary of Independence. The Samanid Empire (874-1005 AD) marked the formation of the Tajik nation, with a common language, territory and culture. This first Tajik state gave birth to civilization and statehood for following generations of Tajiks; and now, on the dawn of the third millennium, Tajikistan is recognised and known all over the world as an independent nation.

As part of the celebrations, there was a programme of international conferences and symposiums. Perhaps the most symbolic of these was the 4th "International Forum of Tajiks and Compatriots Living Outside Tajikistan", which was held in Dushanbe and saw Tajiks returning "home" from all corners of the globe. Various other conferences were held in Dushanbe and all regions of Tajikistan, Saint Petersburg, and Iran. They were devoted to the main theme "History, Civilization and Culture of Samanids".

In the National History Museum new exhibitions displayed the tools, musical instruments, coins, and clothes of the Samanids. New exhibitions were also devoted to the Independence Day. A large book exhibition was organised with a display of more than 1,500 books to mark the 1100th anniversary of Samanids. Over 700 people visited the exhibition. The

Ministry of Culture organised a competition between the nation's libraries - "Charogi Hidoyat" (Enlightenment). First place was won by the public library in Khujand. The Ministry of Culture also organised more than 10 festivals, 8 international and national conferences, and published 189 books. All of these activities helped to foster national pride, strengthen confidence and social cohesion. 62 regions of the Republic took part in the "Andoleb" (nightingale) festival of folk art. It is estimated that the total audience numbered 1.5 million. 14 theatres and 240 actors



participated in the theatre festival "Parastu-99" (swallow) and the events were watched by 10,000 people.

### 5.2 Culture

#### Theatre

Theatre plays an important role within the cultural life of Tajikistan. In 1999 it is estimated that 524,000 people visited the theatre; that is nearly one in ten of the population. There are 15 theatres in the country, of which 10 are devoted to drama, 4 to children's drama and there is the Opera House located in the nation's capital. To

underline the important place of theatre in the life of the country and its role in the peace process in December 10, 1999 Majlisi Oli adopted a resolution to declare the 7th of November as a Day of Tajik Theatre.

With the return of peace in the country, Tajik theatre is undergoing a renaissance and 1999 saw several significant achievements. The chorus of the Tajik National Opera House took part in the international festival of academic choruses in Ankara and was placed second in a field of 39 countries. The Tajik Drama Theatre staged 4 plays, one of which - "Call of love" - received the first prize in the festival "Parastu-99". The Mayakovsky Russian Drama Theatre staged 4 plays on children's issues. The Puppets Theatre in Dushanbe visited Italy with the performance "Reflections on war and peace". The youth theatre "Ahorun" prepared two plays on historical and philosophical



themes to mark the anniversary day.

The creative work of actors and poets is encouraged by the people and by the Government. In 1999, the honorary title "National Actor of Tajikistan" was conferred upon three actors and composers. Two national actors of Tajikistan were awarded the "Star of President". The honorary title of "National Poet of Tajikistan" was awarded to three poets.

### **Music and Dance**

Music and dance also play a central role within Tajik culture. Scholars from Tajikistan, Russia, and France discussed



the issues of professional musical education and musical heritage of the Tajik nation at an international festival. Dushanbe hosted the 4th annual festival of Music and Books for Children and Teenagers, organised by "Peace Fund for Children" programme to promote human values. There was also international success when the children's dance group "Jahonoro" (beauty of world) won the first place at the international festival "World Children and Art" in Turkey. 36 countries participated in this festival.

### **Museums and Libraries**

There are 27 museums in Tajikistan, of which 21 are devoted to the history of the country and 4 to the literature. Altogether 312 thousand people visited museums, equivalent to an attendance rate of 51 per 1,000 population.

The pearls of Tajik culture are the unique manuscripts of the famous scholars and writers of the medieval period and 2,201 manuscripts are preserved in the Department of Oriental Manuscripts in the State National Library. This Library is also home to approximately three million books. During the year donations of new books were received from national authors and international organizations and embassies. The first professional newspaper "Kniga" was issued.

Libraries continue to provide an important source of information for the population of Tajikistan. According to the SSA data, there are currently 1,463 libraries with a total number of 798,500 readers. The

average number of books and journals per reader is 17. However, financial constraints have meant that the stocks of books are not updated regularly. Furthermore, with the shrinking public budget expenditures, the salary of librarians became very low, only 2,000 TR. The prestige of the profession has been badly damaged and many staff have left. The rural libraries have been hardest hit. Premises are not heated and repaired. Many libraries in rural areas have shut down.

Book publication is important for the dissemination of information, and the preservation and documentation of the cultural heritage of the nation. In 1999, 189 new books were published with a total issue of 0.4 million copies. 138 - in Tajik, 36 - in Russian, 7 - in Tajik and Russian, 8 - in other languages. 65 of the new books were devoted to children, 40 - to politics and social aspects, 33 - to culture and education, 24 - to nature and science, and 17 - to medicine.

The President of the RT has allotted 450 million TR from his foundation to support the publication of books. The payment for authors, writers and poets is increasing. However, the books are printed on paper of low quality and print runs remain small as few people can afford to buy new books.

### 5.3 Sports

At present 31 kinds of sports are practiced within the country, the most widespread and popular of which are: football, Tae - Kwon-Do, boxing, sambo, dzu-do, chess, tennis, volley-ball, field athletics, gushtangiri, mountain climbing, mountain-



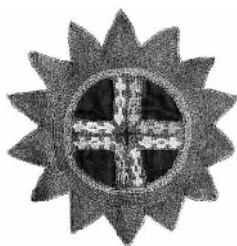
skiing, and canoeing. 27 Republican Federations have the status of independent organisations. Several are members of International Federations, most notably football, field athletics, boxing, and Tae-Kwon-Do. In 1999 in Tajikistan 54 “Masters of Sport”, 9 “Masters of International Class” and 2 “Honorary Masters of Sport” were trained in Tajikistan. The sportsmen of Tajikistan won international recognition in several kinds of sports in 1999. Five of them won world cups at the Sambo World Championship, Asia. Two representatives from Tajikistan, one of them a women, participated in the World Championships of Tae - Kwon - Do.

### 5.4 Recommendations

Culture lies at the heart of society's moral, spiritual and intellectual life. The development of culture is one of the main planks of human development, as the aspiration to creativeness and invention develops human potential and opportunities. The state strategy should support talented groups that are interested in the development of traditional culture and to create an enabling environment for multi-channel financing. Only by ensuring an enabling environment for creativeness can the brain drain be stopped.

The strategy in the field of culture should consider:

- Promotion of cultural pluralism as a factor of social cohesion;
- Increase of financing of the cultural foundations;
- Expansion of income generation opportunities;
- Adoption of the law “On Libraries»;
- Modernisation of the equipment for libraries.



## 6. Science

Science is an important factor for human development, and is aimed at the improvement of quality of life. The achievements of science are for the benefit of all human beings, and not for the sake of the science itself. Today in Tajikistan, academic, university and ministerial research activities are all working together to find solution to the social and economic problems of the country.

### 6.1 Human resources

There are a total of 3,197 people with an academic degree in Tajikistan. Women constitute 17 percent of them. There are 48 research institutions, employing nearly five thousand people, including 810 postgraduates. A total budget is under 1 billion Tajik roubles. The largest research centre in the country is the Academy of Sciences.

Table 1. Total number of research institutions	
RT	1999
Total number	48
Number of employed	4,945
The volume of work ( mln TR)	948.8
Total post graduates	810
Of which women	230

(SSA)

### 6.2 The Academy of Sciences

The Academy of Sciences of Tajikistan was formed in 1951, and grew out of the Tajik Research Station, which was first established in 1933. The Academy currently has 16 Institutes (Institutes of Mathematics, Astrophysics, Physical and Technical Sciences, Chemistry, Geology, Seismology, Botanicals, Zoology, Gastroenterology, Plants and Genetics, History, Archaeology and Ethnography, Philosophy and Law, Oriental and literary heritage, and the Pamir Affiliation of Academy of Sciences, including Pamir Institute of Humanities and

Pamir Biological Institute), which are divided into three departments: Physics and Mathematics, Chemical and Geological and Social Sciences. The Academy also has three centres, Khujand Research Centre and Khatlon Research Centre and Centre for Population Studies. The Academy of Sciences is headed by the Presidium, and its main priorities are the stimulation of youth, the improvement of living conditions of scholars, and the acquisition of new IT equipment.

### Resources

A total of 1,721 people are employed in the Academy; of whom 779 are Fellows of the Academy, of which 17% are aged under 30. For the first time since 1992 the number employed has increased compared to the previous year and it appears that the brain drain of experts away from academia has slowed down. Another positive sign is the increase in the number of young people attracted to the research institutes. This is important to ensure future generations of scientists in Tajikistan.

The financial situation has also improved. The budget of the Academy of Sciences was increased by 30% in 1999, but despite this increase it is still insufficient to meet the current level of commitments. In 1999 4.3 million TR was allocated from the public budget for research work. Actual financing was 92% of this amount. The funding shortfall was even higher for salary costs, with just 59% being met. The

Table 2. Number of post graduates with academic degree, 1999

		women
Total	3,197	534
Doctorates	504	45
Ph.D.	2,693	489

(SSA)

average salary of scholars in 1999 was 8,500 TR.

### **Research**

In 1999 members of the Academy of Sciences were involved in research on over 100 different themes. Four major projects were completed. Six groups received international grants for research. Contracts to a total value of 2.6 million TR have been completed. The Academy of Sciences also conducted 25 conferences and seminars, covering topics such as "Science in the epoch of Samanids", "Samanids the Cultural Revival of Tajiks", "Human Development in Tajikistan", "Water Resources in Tajikistan", and "Combating Desertification". The regional conference on "Mountainous regions, and SHD" was conducted in Dushanbe.

A total of 778 scientific works were published, including 107 monographs, 593 articles in national journals, 83 articles in foreign journals, and 65 manuals.

The Central Scientific Library in 1999 served 15,931 readers. The total book stock is just under 1.5 million. New books and journals were received from international organisations. The Open Society Institute, supported by Soros Foundation gifted 1,500 copies of journals in the English language covering a variety of disciplines. The Embassies of Germany, India and other countries also provided support with many journals. Exchanges with other libraries yielded 2,242 books.

### **Creativity and scientific achievements**

In 1999, scholars of the Academy of Sciences received 4 patents and 9 approvals for patents. 13 designs were implemented into production, and 6 findings were proposed to the various branches of industry. Some of the recent scientific achievements have been put to use for the benefit of the national economy. As a whole there were 259 applications for patents for new inventions.

### **Scientific advances through collaboration**

The Academy of Sciences has treaties and agreements on co-operation with the Ministry of Environment "On joint actions to solve environment problems and rational use of natural resources". There are also agreements with other ministries and agencies. The Physical and Technical Institute is co-operating with the Republican Centre on the disposal of radioactive raw materials and its deactivation. The Institute of Gastroenterology is working with the blood transfusion service to study the incidence of hepatitis viruses. The Institute of Plants collaborates with the Ministry of Agriculture in cultivating cotton, wheat and potato seeds. The Pamir Biological Institute has prepared recommendations on the complex use of heat from the thermo-waters of Pamir. The Academy of Sciences gave 25,000 trees and seeds to the Dushanbe City Administration to improve the ecological environment of the city. It has also given 8,182 trees and plants to the Khorog City Administration.

Scholars of the Academy of Sciences cooperate with a number of Tajik Universities. Scholars also collaborate with many foreign intellectuals and institutions. In the CIS, the Academy of Sciences has extensive academic links through international associations and international economic committees. In 1999, 49 scholars from the Academy of Sciences participated in international

1999 saw the publication of the first and second volumes of a six-volume monograph on "History of the Tajik Nation" by the Institute of History, Archaeology and Ethnography. Other landmarks include the completion of research on the history of education in ancient and medieval periods in Tajikistan.

The Institute of Philosophy and Law completed research in the history and theory of human studies. Studies were carried out in the areas of national consolidation, social disparities, and education. The reasons for the decline of the prestige of education were studied. The problems of religion within society were also examined. Finally, key aspects of the implementation of laws and ways in which to improve current legislation were identified.

seminars. 32 scholars carried out joint research with foreign partners and 12 people studied at various courses. In addition, 23 foreign scholars from Germany, USA, France, India, Canada, Iran visited the Academy of Sciences. 10 prominent foreign scholars are members of the Academy of Sciences.

During a period of profound change, the Academy of Sciences has been an active participant in the building of a democratic society. Through the expansion of experience and knowledge, it has provided a forum for dialogue on the future of society, facilitating peace, social cohesion, stimulating youth to creativity, and promoting human values, such as peace, justice, sustainable development.

### 6.3 Information technology

Developments in information technology are opening up new horizons and opportunities. However, at present the popular use of IT is largely confined to developed nations. It is estimated that 96% of users of the Internet live in highly developed countries. This situation highlights the need for prompt intervention to overcome the information gap between rich and poor people. At the International Symposium on IT and Development in Tokyo in July 2000 it was noted that developing countries should use the new opportunities afforded by the information revolution and the Internet to manage changes in all spheres of

society. IT can be used to stimulate economic growth and human development. For example, farmers can get access to the weather forecast for crops, as well as information on the prices for their products. Similarly, IT can help to increase the resources of the poor by giving them information on various social services as well as employment and income generating opportunities.

To decrease poverty UNDP has put the promotion of IT on the agenda as a priority for future. UNDP helps countries to develop their information infrastructure and create a favourable environment to expand access to communication. By overcoming the problems of distance and time, IT allows poor people to get access to information about education. Education in itself is the key to the future development of IT. Thus, an increase in IT literacy amongst the population should be a priority. Here access to Internet is a critical factor, it is expensive and is not extended to rural areas. It is necessary to provide all rural areas with telephone communication. Currently, according to the results of the TLSS, it is estimated that only 14% of rural households have telephones. This will have to be done in partnership with the private sector and the international community.

In his speech at the Tokyo conference, the UNDP Administrator appealed to developed countries to help developing countries to take advantage of the IT revolution.

### Scientific achievements and the national economy

- A new treatment using red laser rays developed by the Physical and Technical Institution has been implemented in the urban hospital N1;
- New technology proposed by the Institute of Chemistry will help to save \$50 thousand in the steel-moulding workshop in the Aluminium plant. The technology uses quartz sand from LO to produce synthetic steel. The technology may also be applied to assist purification of water and to provide medicine for animals;
- The Institute of Zoology discovered 27 parasites on vegetables and melons in Penjikent, Khojand and Isfara regions, and has successfully designed a means of treating and cleaning the vegetables.

### 6.4 Recommendations:

- Expand access to information technologies and provide new equipment. At present poor communication facilities and high prices impede the flow of information and establishment of international contacts;
- Re-establish contacts with other countries for the exchange of the publications, experience and information. Find resources for regular publications of the academic journals;

- Find extra-budgetary resources and international grants for research;
- Stimulate and attract youth to academic work;
- Work out a clear programme to integrate science and education.

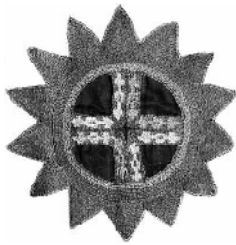


### **IT- priorities in Development**

UNDP Tajikistan in partnership with UNESCO launched a project "Establishment of the Technological University of Tajikistan Computer Centre for Informatics Skills Development and Information Services" expanding access to Internet for population, particularly students.

The long-term objectives of the project are:

- Provide IT services, traininginformatics skills;
- Increase of the role of informatics in competitiveness market;
- Provide information to other sectors;
- Provide access to global information to wide range of population.



## 7. Promotion of Gender Equity

The main provision for SHD is the promotion of gender equity. Women constitute 49.7% of the population and labour force of the country. The provision of women with opportunities for equal participation with men in development demands the efforts not only of a strong state, but also of the private sector and civil society. The Government determines gender policy; and civil society can lobby for the inclusion of gender policy into new laws, or lobby to ensure that such laws are not gender blind. The private sector can sponsor these initiatives.

### 7.1 Government

The role of women in modern Tajik society is influenced both by the inheritance of the Soviet period, with its emphasis on gender parity within the public sphere, and the traditional values of the Tajik family. The collapse of the social protection system (free health care and education, family benefits, and a wide network of kindergartens and nurseries), has increased the burden on

women and has reduced her participation in the decision making process. With the cessation of the military confrontation in Tajikistan, the Government has paid more attention to increasing the role of women in society. In September 1998, with the participation of NGOs, the "National Plan of Action for Advancement of Women for the years 1998-2005" was adopted. In December 1999, the President of the RT issued a Decree "On Advancement of Women", which provided official recognition of the support for a gender policy in Tajikistan to ensure equal rights and equal opportunities for all members of society.

The aim of the "National Plan of Action" is to improve the health of women, ensure equal access to education, increase women's awareness of economic and legal issues, to improve living conditions for women, promote equal rights and opportunities in all spheres of life, prevent gender-based violence, ensure ecologically sustainable development, and reduce the affect of pollution on women's health. The main programmes of work have been developed. The Committee for Women and Family at the Government of the RT is responsible for their implementation.

### 7.2 NGOs

NGOs have played an important role in the promotion of gender parity. The growth in the number of gender related NGOs has been impressive; from just 3 in 1995 to 71 in mid 2000, according to the Ministry of Justice data. Women's participation in civil society is not, however, limited to gender-related NGOs; women are active across the entire sector.

In rural areas, many of the initiatives of women's NGOs are directed towards

### Women in Tajikistan

There are 3,045 thousand women in Tajikistan. Female life expectancy is 71.3 years. Women shouldered many difficulties of the transition period. They are proud of their role of mothers, housekeepers. Women hold 13% of the seats in the new Parliament and constitute 49.3% of the labour force, 44% of teachers, 37% of doctors, and 53% employed in the national economy. Girls make up 46% of students in secondary schools and 25% of university students, and 17% of scholars are women.

Article 17 of Constitution guarantees equal rights and liberties for everyone, irrespective of nationality, race, gender, religion, language, political orientation, social and property status. The Government recognises that the active participation of women in all spheres of society - political, economic and social - is for the benefit of human development.

economic activities aimed at sustaining livelihoods. These include creating sustainable jobs using micro-credit. In urban areas, the focus is more on the expansion of knowledge on human rights, including women's rights and gender education. Activities include producing literature and informational press releases, newspapers, posters, the conduct of social surveys. These activities are aimed at benefiting women throughout Tajikistan, in both rural and urban areas. These ventures have succeeded in increasing the activity of women in economic and social life. But the most important factor is that women themselves develop the projects and manage their implementation.

The quality and style of NGO work has changed over time. First they worked using a top down approach of Donor-NGO to and with target group. Now NGOs consult with their target groups (very often NGO members are also members of that group) to determine priorities. NGOs now try to impact on the policymaking process by bi-lateral dialogues, conferences, and round tables to influence. Since 1998, women's NGOs have started to lobby their interests to increase the number of women in the managerial and governmental positions. NGOs highlighted the decline in political representation of women since the abandonment of quotas. Their campaign was picked up by the civil society, press and facilitated the introduction of the new legislation.

All civil organisations depend on financing. New taxation reforms should give incentives to private commercial sector to encourage donations to the social needs of population. The private sector revenues, donated for the social programmes, should be tax exempted. This would make financial support to civil society more sustainable, and assist in realisation of social programmes on education and poverty alleviation. The support of the commercial sector is particularly important for the expansion of NGOs in rural areas.

### **National Plan of Action for Advancement of Women for the years 1998-2005**

In 1998, the Government of Tajikistan took positive steps to realize the Program of Actions adopted by the 4th UN Conference on Women held in Beijing in 1995. On September 10 1998 the "National Plan of Action for Advancement of women for the years 1998-2005" was adopted. The National Plan includes the following sections: healthcare, education and training, poverty and economics, women rights, violence against women, ecology.

### **Gender studies come to Tajikistan**

UNDP promotes the concept of SHD, which is job creation, protection of environment and gender parity. To find out the factors that impede gender parity in any particular country, it is important to study the social and economic situation of women. The study of the gender relations was new to Tajikistan and in order to support work in this area UNDP launched the "Women in Development" project in 1995. Under the WID programme, a major sociological survey was conducted on the problem of gender based violence and reproductive health. Studies have taken place on topics as varied as women and leadership, social values, and gender roles in literature, art and language. Research has been carried out by scholars and NGOs, such as "Traditions and Modernity", "Open Asia", the Association of Business Women of Khojand, "Odamiyat" (Humanity), and "Women of Science in Tajikistan". In 1999 the first statistical volume devoted to gender statistics was prepared and published. In 2000 the Centre for Gender Studies was set up within the Tajik State National University. To coincide with this, the first academic conference on Gender Studies in Tajikistan was held and a collection of articles was published. Courses on gender studies (such as gender and culture, gender statistics, gender planning, gender and mass media) are also starting to be offered at higher educational establishments including Tajik State National University and the Russian-Tajik Slavonic University.

### 7.3 Women's participation in politics

Analysis of the electoral campaign in 2000 shows that the opportunity to realise ambition in political leadership was used almost exclusively by men. Women are active in the political life of the country, but seem to have found greater opportunities to find their voice within the NGO sector. In contrast to political parties, which confront each other, NGOs can cooperate with several political parties at the same time and also with each other to achieve their common interests. Thus, during the election campaign, many women's NGOs organised seminars and round tables for voters and candidates, giving equal opportunities to all the parties to explain their election programme to voters. It is not the desire to lead which drives women, but the wish to achieve the accord of opposing views. The different approach to leadership of men and women is responsible for their concentration in the different spheres of the political and social life of the country.

The level of participation of women in the Elections in 2000 was higher compared to the previous election. However, women made up only one in ten of the candidates. In the 41 electoral districts for Majlisi Namoyandagon (the Chamber of Representatives) 287 people were nominated as candidates, of which 10% were women. Four women were elected, constituting 10% of successful candidates! Political parties nominated 108 list candidates (for the seats to be decided according to proportional representation), of which 15 were women. The People's Democratic Party won 15 seats, of which 4 went to women.

In the new Majlisi Oli women hold 12 seats or 13% of the total number of seats. In the former Majlisi Oli there were only 5 women, or 3%. The Deputy Chairman of the Majlisi Namoyandagon is a woman. Women head two of the seven committees in the Majlisi Namoyandagon.

Women's representation has also increased in local government; women

now account for 14.4% of the total number of deputies compared to 8.9% after the 1995 elections. Following the President's Decree "On Advancement of Women in society", women were appointed as Chairpersons in 10 of the 64 local hukumats. This contrasts with the previous position where prior to December 1999 there were only two women Chairpersons. However, the position of Deputy Chairperson is held by a women in 70% of the local hukumats.

The empowerment of women in the executive branch will provide the impetus for the acquisition of leadership skills. In future these women will form a pool of potential candidates for the national elections. With work experience as managers at a local level, later they will have the management skills to in economic and social spheres. Political parties can contribute to gender equality by creating gender balanced party lists for the Majlisi Namoyandagon. NGOs can also provide experience in leadership for women. The project "Women's School of Political Leadership" run by the NGO "Traditions and Modernity" serves as a good example of what can be achieved. The project, financed by IFES and USAID, conducted training in leadership in 6 towns, with the participation of 200 women. Some of the participants were then nominated as candidates for the parliamentary elections. The women were trained how to prepare programme and activities for the electoral campaign, the mass media and voters.

### 7.4 The Economic participation of women

In 1999, 69% of men and 44% of women were economically active, according to



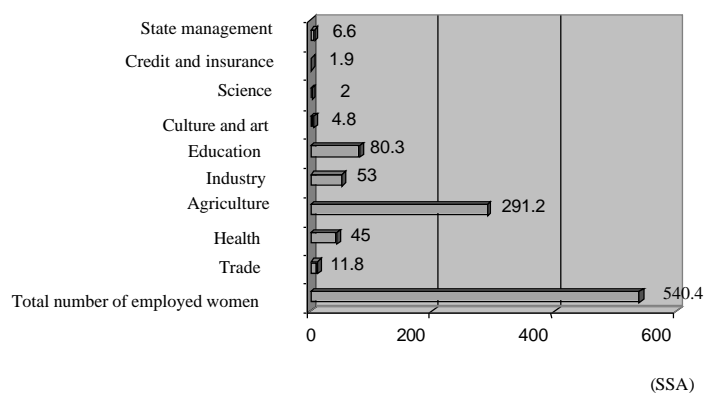
the WB data. Women are primarily employed in the agricultural sector, and in the public service areas of education and health. As a consequence of dramatic declines in the real levels of public expenditure, spending on health and education have fallen significantly with the consequence that wages in these sectors are now very low. On average, women's income is 4 times lower than the income of men, according to TLSS data.

The low representation of women-managers is a direct result of the traditional gender roles within society. Women also lack entrepreneur skills. There are no official statistics on the number of women in business. According to data from the Association of Small and Medium Business, only 3% of 482 private enterprises are headed by women. Women are more often engaged in "shuttle trade".

The majority of women (52.4%) are housewives. Thus, one of the main problems for many women is how to combine paid work with family duties. In the soviet period, there was fully paid maternity leave and many state-run enterprises had nurseries and child care facilities. This gave women the chance to combine maternity with economic activity. However, since 1992 many of these facilities have closed down, leaving women to bear the burden of both family and work. Furthermore in the market economy, many private employers are reluctant to hire women, giving greater consideration to their reproductive functions than their professional qualifications.

Reform of labour legislation is necessary to give the right for childcare to any member of the family, regardless of gender. Such reforms in labour

Chart 1. Number of women employed by sectors in 1999 (thousand people)



legislation would weaken the discrimination women in the labour market. Equal division of responsibility for children will promote not only gender parity, but will also expand the choice of opportunities faced by women. The law would also help to alter the stereotype of the limited responsibility of men.

To overcome the economic crisis it is necessary to develop gender poverty reduction strategies, empower women, and give them opportunities for participation and sustainable livelihoods. The farming skills of women are often underestimated. At present many women grow agricultural products and sell homemade products in the local markets. In order to support this type of activity, the Government should expand women's access to land and to credit necessary to buy seed and other inputs.

### 7.5 Violence

Ensuring equal access to assets will help to alleviate tension in families with low income. According to a survey in GBAO, in 1999, 7% women confirmed that relations within the family had become tense because of the lack of income. The "Women Scientists in Tajikistan" Association also found a link

Table 1. Market sellers by regions

Number	Total	Dushanbe	LO	KHO	GBAO	RRS
Traders per day	30,444	11,443	8,209	7,827	607	2,295
Of which women	14,910	5,149	4,597	3,569	516	1,079
% of women of total	49	45	56	46	85	47
Of which women over 55	1,174	360	138	511	46	119
Girls under 16	1,228	412	322	356	41	97

(SSA)

between economic stress and tension within the family. In interviewing 1,600 women on their perception of violence, 67% of women reported that they had suffered from some type of violence.

To address this problem, one of the 6 key sections of the National Plan of Action for the Advancement of Women focuses on the need to prevent any type of violence. In February 2000 there was a meeting of 14 NGOs on violence issues, headed by the NGO "Open Asia". The Open Society Institute, supported by SOROS Foundation has also conducted training for lawyers and doctors on these issues.

The NGO "Sitara" has recently carried out a small research project on the incidence of domestic violence against women. Interviews with 200 women in Dushanbe revealed high levels of unemployment, the growing feminization of poverty, and generally low levels of awareness amongst the population of any gender policy. Four percent of the 200 women were second wives and 37% indicated that their marriage was coerced. 80% reported that their husbands regularly consumed alcohol and tobacco products and 3% reported that their husbands took drugs. 84% of women said that they had not experienced domestic violence, but thought it was widely practiced. The results of the survey were published in a collection of papers entitled Beijing+ 5 in 2000.

#### **7.6 Access to education**

The education of women is important for future generations. Education enhances human capital, and decreases poverty. There is growing evidence that children from poor families do not attend school, and they have no money, clothes, shoes, and textbooks. Many such children have to earn money and help their parents. The quality of education has also declined; 4,000 qualified teachers have left the country, the classes are not heated, children are hungry, and the classes are overcrowded. About 11% of teachers do not have any special

pedagogical education.

Within secondary education there is now a growing differential in attendance between boys and girls. It is necessary to take urgent action to ensure the equal access to education to all, irrespective of gender and social status. Now there are just 63 girls per 100 boys in secondary schools; in 1990, there were 104 girls per 100 boys. One way to do this is to ensure that poorer families are relieved from any payments associated with schooling. In 1994, NGO "Save the Children/US" provided school meals for about 170 thousand children from classes 1 - 4 in 635 schools. As a result of the programme it is estimated that school attendance increased by 20 - 22%. In 1999, NGO "CARE - International" began to provide rural schoolchildren with hot meals and textbooks.

The gender gap in access to education is even wider within higher education. In 1990-91, girls made up 36.6% students within tertiary education. By 1999-2000, this share had fallen to just 25.1%. The representation of girls within different academic disciplines is also very unequal. For example, amongst those studying industry, there is just one girl for every 5 boys.

One of the reasons for the decline in the proportion of girls in higher education is the decline of the average age at marriage from 24.3 in 1990 to 20.8 in 1998. Many parents hope to find financial security for their daughters this way. The other reason is the lack of safe dormitories for rural students to live in towns. The WID Bureau, financed by UNDP, has established a Learning Centre in Dushanbe for Girl Students. The enrolment of girls to universities is currently subject to Presidential quotas. However, in many regions these quotas are not filled.

The level of education of women and girls will contribute to the further expansion of women rights and strengthening the potential of future generations. Children of more educated mothers are likely to

survive longer and achieve higher levels of education themselves. Expansion of access to education will enhance social mobility and be an engine for economic growth and human development.

### **7.7 Gender roles in the family**

Between 1991 and 1998 the annual number of registered marriages fell by almost three-quarters; in 1998 there were just 21 thousand marriages. In reality there are 3 times as many marriages contracted as shown by the official figures. More and more women are becoming second, or even third, wives in order to provide themselves and their children with the minimum for survival. As a result they are deprived of any legal rights over joint assets, rights for inheritance, and their share at the division of assets in case of divorce or death of the husband. Measures need to be taken to protect women and their children in such circumstances

It is also important to take measures to ease the burden of unpaid labour of women at home. It is estimated that women spend between 4 and 5 hours per day on household tasks, compared with their husbands, who spend 1.5 - 2 hours a day, according to SSA. The significant deterioration of amenities, (such as frequent disruption of gas and electricity supplies, lack of heating), have increased the workload on women within the household. This load is also increased by taking care of sick and dependent members of household as in many cases the household cannot afford the services of hospitals and preschool establishments.

There is often a gender imbalance in access to household finance. It is common for men to make the decisions on how to spend the household budget. When purchasing consumer durables,

preference is often given to audio and video equipment, which are for leisure time and entertainment and are mostly used by men. In the last 7 years, only five percent of families have purchased a washing machine and/or vacuum cleaner, which eases housekeeping work and which are mainly used by women. Women have less free time than men. Only 8% of urban women and 2% of rural women reported that they can spend leisure time outside the family. Nowadays, people rarely visit each other as guests, and they are not fully realising the national tradition of hospitality.

### **Changes in the composition of the families**

Traditionally the Tajik family had many children. Recent changes in births, marriage and divorce have given rise to changes in the composition of the typical family. In 1998 alone, registered deaths and births dropped by 17%. This was in part due to the introduction of fees for registration, but there is no doubt that fertility is declining. The total fertility rate has fallen from 5.1 in 1989 to 3.7 in 1998. On the one hand, this decline is the result of the reproductive health centres activities, and on the other hand, it shows that in an agrarian country, where children are highly valued, the population is under economic duress.

### **7.8 Reproductive health**

The last decade has seen improvements in several indicators of reproductive health. There has been a decline in the number of abortions in the result of the use of modern contraceptives. The proportion of women of reproductive age using contraceptives has increased from just 3.1% in 1990 to 30% in 1999. The number of abortions in 1999 was 21,200, or 14.2 per 1,000 fertile women. The infant mortality rate, although declining, is still high and in 1998 was 23.4 per 1,000

There is some evidence that women manage and control their reproductive functions and adjust them to the economic conditions in the family. Two in five women of reproductive age reported that economic factors had impacted upon the number of children in the family. 43% of rural women and 37% of urban women reported that they had reduced their fertility as a result of economic hardship. (SSA)

livebirths. The maternal mortality rate is also high, at 87.8 per 100 thousand livebirths. According to SSA, among the main causes of maternal mortality, haemorrhages account for 38% of deaths, toxic -27%, sepsis - 11%, and abortions - 8%. The high MMR reflects the deterioration of the health of women, and the low quality and access to ante-natal services. The proportion of women seeking pre-natal care has declined. According to data from the TLSS, 37% of women who were currently pregnant reported that they had had no consultations in relation to their current pregnancy. This is a marked departure from the past when pre-natal care was universal and pregnant women received up to 15 consultations. The decline is, in part, accounted by the decline in the quality of pre-delivery services, and the deterioration in the infrastructure of maternal establishments. However, many women are also deterred from seeking health care due to the costs imposed by unofficial fees. The number of births at home has increased. A third of women surveyed in the TLSS had given birth at home, which has implications for the long-term health of children as first immunisations are given in the hospital.

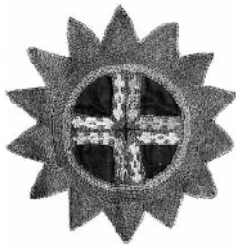


**Recommendation:**

- Promote greater representation of women within management;
- Develop leadership qualities amongst women;
- Improve the mechanisms that promote equal access by men and women to land and other productive assets;
- Carry out co-ordinated activities aimed at improving reproductive health in health and education sectors;
- Promote gender parity in education;
- Strengthen official social protection of women;
- Enhance the legal education of women in Tajikistan, social role and active participation of women in management through NGOs;
- Protect the economic, social, political and rights of women through NGOs and government organisations

On 2 December 1999 the President of the RT signed the National Programme for 2000-2003 on "Reproductive Health and Reproductive Rights". This programme will

- improve the social policy in health care;
- enhance realisation of reproductive rights and family planning.



## 8. Governance and Local Power

### 8.1 The aims and tasks of the governance reforms

One of the main aims of the economic reforms is the reform of the systems of governance and management, adjusting them to the requirements of the market economy. At the sessions of the Government of RT it was pointed out several times that existing system of management is outdated and overstaffed. Ministerial and agency functions are often duplicated and there is weak co-ordination between them - all of which serve to impede entrepreneurial initiative and hinder economic growth. The priority actions for the improvement of the governing structures are:

- Transit to a modern style of management;
- Simplify the management system by integrating or closing the duplicating structures;
- Increase responsibility and accountability of the top managers. This can be achieved by competitive recruitment for managers within the sector;
- Reject the command style of management. Decentralise management of economic entities;
- Delegate essential economic tasks to the private sector;
- Increase payments to public employees through the improved system of governance.

On 21 June 1999, the WB extended a second credit to the Government of the RT for Institutional Building and Technical Assistance. This project will be realised in three components, including the improvement of governance in the context of the development of the market economy.

In February 1999, by the order of the President the working team was organised to reform state management and governance. Within the first component, the central and local executive, legislative and judicial branches will be reviewed with the aim to:

- a) reform governance and management structures;
- b) develop Government services for motivation and labour payment;
- c) strengthen governance and management structures.

The project is designed for four years and will be carried out in a number of phases.

### 8.2 Local governance

The division of responsibilities between central Government and the regions in RT is set out in the Constitution of RT and in the laws "On Local Governance" and "Self-Governing bodies in Rural Areas". Local administration is responsible for the social and economic development of the region, realisation of the Constitution, laws, and acts of Majlisi Oli and the President.

Two new laws aim to separate local representative and executive power. These new laws are "On Elections to Majlisi Oli of the RT" and "On Elections to Local Majlisi". At the level of the autonomous oblast, oblasts, towns and regions, the representative body is the local Majlisis. The executing body is hukumat. Both representative and executing functions are vested in the same Chairperson. The new laws "On Elections to Majlisi Oli" and "On Elections to Local Majlisi", multi-party elections and economic growth envisage the division of representative and executive power and decentralisation of local governance.

#### 8.2.1 Representation of power at the local level

Local representative power is vested in the Majlis (council) of local deputies, which are elected at a local level by local residents. The deputy's role is to understand what local people want from the state and to represent these objectives to the state. Local deputies approve the local budget and monitor its performance, they set out regional social and economic development objectives, set local taxes and payments and decide how to

manage common property. Local deputies also approve the appointment of the chairperson and the chairperson's deputies and receive reports on their activity. The Majlis of local deputies works in sessions, through commissions, and through the regular work of deputies. The local Majlis can instigate proceedings to impeach the chairperson. These proceedings consist of a secret ballot where a two-thirds majority is required for the Majlis to be able to request the resignation of the chair. The President of the the RT must endorse this decision and would usually do so within a month of the decision of the majlis. The main function of the chairperson is to convene and prepare sessions, submit for approval the main plans for economic and social development of the territory.

Local Majlis are independent of central government. The majlisi may delegate their functions to the lower majlis or carry out their functions themselves. The local Majlis can enter agreements with managers in other regions in order to manage a joint activity that has a common goal or manage joint ventures, and coordinate activities in various sectors.

The local Majlis and chairperson of GBAO, oblasts, towns and regions ensure self-governing rights on their territories. There are 77 local Majlises.

### **8.2.2 Executive power at the local level**

Executive power in various locations is vested in the chairperson of the Hukumat. The President of the RT has the power to appoint and dismiss the chairperson of GBAO, oblasts, Dushanbe, regions and towns. The candidacy of a nominated chairperson must be approved at the majlisi of people's deputies.

Hukumats consist of boards, committees and departments, and they function according to Government resolutions.

The formation of administrative units and the definition of their responsibilities fall within the jurisdiction of the Majlisi Oli. There are three levels of local authority and self-governing bodies within the territorial and administrative structure:

- Hukumats of GBAO, KHO, LO, Dushanbe, which are subordinate to the Government;

- Hukumats of the towns, oblasts regions, districts in Dushanbe, and 13 RRS;
- Jamoats (rural communities) of town and villages in rural area.

### **8.2.3 The status of GBAO**

The legal status of GBAO is defined by the constitutional law of RT "On GBAO" and also through other laws. According to article 7 of the Constitution of RT, GBAO is an integral part of the RT and the local Majlis has the power to legislate. The Majlisi Milli from GBAO has a permanent representative among the Deputies of the Chairperson of Majlisi Milli, and one of the judges in the Constitutional Court.

Tajik is the official language. The state creates an enabling environment for the promotion of other languages as well. Shugnan, Rushan, Vahan, Yazgulam, Russian and Kyrgyz languages are also used as the languages of instruction in secondary schools and are promoted through the mass media in GBAO.

### **8.2.4 Status of the capital**

Dushanbe is the only city with a district division. As a result, the majlis of peoples' deputies and the hukumat of Dushanbe are accorded the status of oblast according to the law of RT "On Local Governance" . Dushanbe's role in Tajikistan is defined in the law of RT "On status of the capital of RT". This law defines the organisational, legal, economic and social conditions that should exist in Dushanbe.

The costs of Dushanbe performing the functions of the capital are covered by the central government budget. The required funds are covered from payments for services rendered by the city and payments of diplomatic representations in Tajikistan.

### **8.3 Local self-governance**

Jamaots are rural self-governing bodies. The new principles of local government are stated in the law "On Self-Governing Bodies in Rural Area". Local governance is defined as "the organisation of the activities of the population to solve local issues independently and in a way that carries responsibility". Local government bodies make decisions directly or through their representatives.

Table 1. Administrative-territorial division of RT

	Total population	Of which rural	territory	Regions	Towns	Districts in the city	Small towns in rural	Rural jamoats
RT	6,127	4,504	143,1	58	22	4	47	354
GBAO	206	178	63,7	7	1	-	-	42
LO	1,870	1,373	26,1	14	10	-	20	93
KHO	2,151	1,781	24,6	24	6	-	18	128
Dushanbe	562	-	0	-	1	4	-	-
RRS	1,338	166	28,4	13	4	-	9	21

( SSA)

Jamoats are set up on a territorial basis. Rural self-governing bodies are legal entities and have their own stamp. Jamoats derive their financial resources from public budget funds allocated by town, regional Majlisi of peoples deputies and donations.

The law "On Self - Governing bodies in Rural area" does not cover such self-governance centres, as mahalla committees, microrayon centres, residence committees, rural centres - that is self-governing grass root committees. They have their own charters, approved by the mahalla centres themselves. Legislators and lawyers have argued that a special law should apply to these organisations. However, doubts have also been expressed as to whether the diversity of activity covered by these institutions, can be covered by one or several laws.

### 8.3.1 Mahalla councils and other territorial self-governing centres

As was previously discussed, local grass root activity below Jamoats is not covered by legislation. Nevertheless the role of the mahalla is very significant in Tajikistan. At the most local level, mahalla centres, residence committees, and rural centres in the Pamir such as guzars (small communities) and tabags (gatherings), all play an essential role in the provision of order, democracy, human rights, and the solution of their local problems. It is through these local structures that RT aims to fulfill the requirements of the European Treaty on local self governance of 1985 and legislation of the Inter-Parliamentary Assembly of CIS countries "On Common Principals of Self-governing bodies."

The mahalla is a community that has always existed in Tajik society. It unites the people living in one territory. Mahallas have helped to bring about peaceful conflict resolution,

and to solve some social problems. Traditionally the council of elders (Shura) headed the mahalla and the community would elect a chairperson for the mahalla. The chairperson would consult the council of elders in making decisions. Mahalla values are based on traditional Islamic ideas on social justice and ethics. The mahallas help to organise some key activities in people's lives. The main function of the mahalla is khashar, which is the eastern style of community assistance, where people would help each other, for example, to construct a house. The mahalla also takes care of the elderly and orphans.

The mahalla does not have administrative functions. In some regions mahallas cooperate closely with state institutions, and sometimes even merge with local state bodies. In such cases it is intended that the chairperson of the mahalla should get a salary from the local government institution. It is difficult to list all activities of the mahallas, but it is clear that they are at the core of Tajik local communities and the basis for local self-governance. Local government is unable to exercise full control over the activities of the mahallas.

#### Best experience:

- **Use of initiative.** From mahalla to NGO. The mahalla members of Railway





district in Dushanbe resolved their social problems themselves. They suffered from a lack of fuel for cooking, and decided to construct a gas pipeline to connect their houses to the natural gas supply. Mahalla members applied to TASIF for assistance in supply of construction materials. As a result they managed to connect their homes to natural gas. Inspired by this success, they set up a committee for microprojects. Through their collective effort they have also improved access to land, waterpipes and the electricity supply. This mahalla committee grew to a small NGO and help needy families.

- **Cooperation with local power.** The hukumat of Ganchi region of LO wanted that local people reduce expenses for traditional ceremonies. The hukumat was guided by the decree: "On National Holidays and Customs in the RT " and by "Resolution on Conducting the Traditional Ceremonies". The hukumat reviewed the role of jamoats and mahallas in managing traditional ceremonies, and set up a commission to regulate them. Cooperation between the hukumats and mahallas have reduced the average family expenditure on ceremonies by more than 100,000 TR. The hukumat in this region has recommended that the role of the mahalla be enhanced. This could be achieved by providing remuneration for the chairperson, making the mahalla a juridical entity, and hearing mahalla reports at the sessions of the local majlis. The conduct of mahalla's could be improved by disseminating best practice

through mass media, issuing booklets, conducting special days for particular streets and encouraging contests.

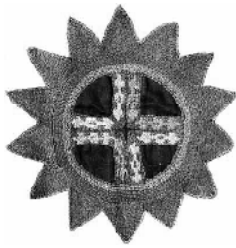
- **Cooperation with NGOs.** NGOs work with the councils of elders and hukumats to increase local initiatives and civil participation. In most mahallas the chairperson is well informed of the problems that families face and is therefore able to work with the mahalla to identify effectively the poorest groups for NGO aid. Data from the international NGO "Counterpart Consortium" indicate that in September 1999 there were 118 NGOs working in various sectors, and many of them worked through mahallas. "Parvin" is an NGO that was set up in 1999 to address women's issues and to help a vulnerable group of the population. Its aim was to develop civil initiatives, improve living standards, promote economic gender equity and expand access to information. NGO affiliates in Karategin zone conducted seminars on "NGO and community". The experience of the NGO "Parvin" in Karategin valley showed that public awareness had increased through seminars and the mass media. This was considered as a good result. One week before the elections a forum of three candidates to the Majlisi Oli was held. One of the candidates was elected in the first round of elections. The NGO plans to conduct a series of seminars on human rights, violence against women and civil education. The civil conflict ruined economy. Women suffered most. The NGO "Parvin" aims to involve women in economic and social development. It closely cooperates with local self-governing bodies. A project to generate employment was instigated for sixty vulnerable families in Darband region. They were trained in private business and how to run a farm. This project was supported by the local hukumat and Eurasia foundation. This NGOs have also set up women's centres.
- **Training.** In April 2000 the NGO "Civil Society Initiative Foundation" organised a seminar on " Democracy through Mahalla Councils". It was conducted with the participation of the mahalla members, local government representatives from the regions and

AKF launched a programme to support rural development, which gave rise to self-governing bodies in rural villages, as rural centers. One such rural organisation is called "Manem", it is situated in Shugnan region in GBAO and function for 5 years, with transparent structure. At an open local meeting a chairperson was elected, who works ex-gratia. The chairperson coordinates the harvesting, and distribution of crops, distribution of aid and microcredits. The council of elders who are over 75 can ask the chairperson to report at any time. Other members of the community help the chairperson to fulfill his/her daily tasks such as taking cattle to pasture. The chairperson works closely with the chairperson of the Jamoat and the region.

governmental officials. Such issues as role of local government in protection of human rights, role of traditional institutions in civil society and partnership with mahallas and hukumats, were discussed in the seminar.

**Recommendations:**

- Chairperson of hukumat should be elected and not appointed;
- Draft legislation documents on territorial self-governing bodies (mahallas, rural centres) to increase their the role and functions;
- Amend legislation on public associations, non-commercial organisations so that they become effective also for mahallas and rural centres;
- Set up associations of mahalla centres;
- NGOs should coordinate with mahallas at a local level;
- Local and international NGOs should organise training for the chairperson of mahallas, in the areas of leadership, social partnership, market economy and civil rights.



## Part 2. Economic Growth

### 9. National Poverty Reduction Strategy

Economic growth is a provision for poverty reduction. It is estimated that in order to have a significant impact on poverty reduction in Tajikistan, a growth rate of 2-3% in GDP per capita will be required. It is also estimated that the equal distribution of growth for the life of one generation will double the income level of population. Therefore, there is a real opportunity to overcome extreme poverty within two or three decades, and to create a more stable society. However, in order to achieve growth with equity, a number of structural reforms will be necessary to ensure a better distribution of productive assets.

The concept of SHD is based upon providing equal opportunities for both present and future generations. Economic growth should contribute to the basic human capabilities, such as access to work, education and health, social protection, shelter, safe water, information and technology, etc. Equally important are the capabilities to move freely around the country, the freedom to participate in wider society, and self respect.

To achieve this, the following issues need to be addressed:

- Access to productive assets, education, food security, and social protection should be expanded.
- Economic growth that takes into account the interests of the poor should be promoted. A first step in this is the creation of an enabling environment for small scale agriculture. The priorities of the public budget should also be reviewed.
- A poverty reduction strategy should include the mass participation of population.

#### 9.1 Introduction

Over the last three and a half years Tajikistan has made substantial progress towards achieving macroeconomic and financial stabilization, implementing a number of measures for the effective functioning of the market economy. The Government has been

supported by the IMF agreement on the 'Mechanism for the Expanded Financing of the Structural Reforms', which in 1999 was called "Mechanism for Poverty Reduction

#### **The Link between Human Development and Economic Growth**

Healthy, well-educated people make the economy productive. However, investment within the social sectors should not be seen solely as a way to increase economic production. Rather it is for the development of human potential. For the successful progress of human development, human beings should be put at the centre of the development process, with equal distribution of income and assets. The economy is for people, and not for the sake of the economy. Thus, economic growth should be aimed at the enrichment of all human beings.

and Economic Growth", and by the World Bank Structural Adjustment Credit. Since 1997, the Government has managed to achieve positive economic growth and an improvement in the well being of the population - reversing the trend of a declining economic growth since 1992.

Despite this progress Tajikistan still remains the poorest country in the CIS, with the lowest income per capita. The Government recognises that the main tool for improving living conditions of the population and poverty reduction is rapid economic growth. Tajikistan has begun to develop a comprehensive Poverty Reduction Strategy. The Strategy will be developed through a process of consultations that, inter alia, will include the representatives of civil society, local communities, donors and poor people themselves.

Poverty assessment in Tajikistan started in 1999 and involved two groups of experts

working jointly with the WB. A number of seminars were organised, involving a large group of local and international experts. The first national program on 'Poverty Reduction and Developing Mechanisms for Social Protection in Tajikistan' was drafted. The poverty line for Tajikistan and main methods for conducting poverty assessments were defined within the framework of this programme. The required legal basis was adopted, and social protection mechanisms and for poverty reduction were specified.

The issues of poverty reduction and economic growth of the country are the priority issues for the Government and are under control of the President of the RT. The Government of Tajikistan will identify, through broad public participation, the poverty reduction objectives to be achieved and will prioritize the Government's actions to accomplish such objectives, as well as specifying the system of public involvement necessary to monitor the implementation of such actions. The poverty reduction strategy will be further improved through a wide process of public involvement over the coming years.

To guarantee rapid economic growth and to stimulate private investment, the Government of Tajikistan has agreed with IMF and the WB on a three year programme of macroeconomic policy and has developed actions for its realisation.

### **9.2 The level of poverty and its characteristics**

Poverty in Tajikistan is a multidimensional phenomenon. Various surveys have shown that poverty, defined in terms of income and consumption, is very high in Tajikistan. The main reasons for this are limited employment opportunities that ensure sufficient income, pervasive low incomes within agriculture and lack of access to productive assets. However, poverty in Tajikistan shows itself not only in low incomes, but also in declining access to, and quality of, such basic services as education and health care as well as access to safe water. This is particularly the case for poor people who increasingly cannot afford the growing costs of services. Civil war, and economic and social instability during the transition period have weakened the social protection system.

Based on the Government's analysis individuals living in poverty constitute more than 80% of the population. A third of the population is classified as "very poor", and almost 20% are "destitute", i.e. their income is below \$1.075 PPP per day.

The problem of poverty is not new for Tajikistan. Prior to gaining independence the per capita income within the country was the lowest among the Soviet republics.

Economic inequality has widened. The expenditures of the richest households are 4 times as much as those of the poorest households. The majority of households in Tajikistan (78%) possess their own land plots, although the size of these plots is generally small. In terms of generating income, land plots are not as important for the richest households as they are for the poorest households, for whom access to land is crucial.

In the past in Tajikistan, as in other former USSR countries, there was either no link at all between the household ownership of consumer goods and their level of income, or such a link was insignificant. Results from a recent study, however, show that there is now a substantial connection between per capita household expenditures and ownership of consumer durables, especially durables manufactured after 1991.

The results of the Tajikistan Living Standards Survey, undertaken in 1999, shows that poverty in Tajikistan is mainly rural phenomenon, with 81.5% of those classified as "very poor" living in rural areas (rural population of Tajikistan is 73.5% of total). 18.6% of the urban population are classified as being "very poor" compared with 23.4% of the rural population.

The regional distribution of the very poor is as follows: 45.7% in KHO, 26.1% in LO, 19.2% in RRS, 6.9% in GBAO and only 2.1% in Dushanbe. Given that GBAO accounts for just over 3 percent of the total population, these results suggest that the "very poor" are overrepresented in this region. In fact the survey results show that a strikingly high proportion of the population of Badakhshan are "very poor" - 39.1%.

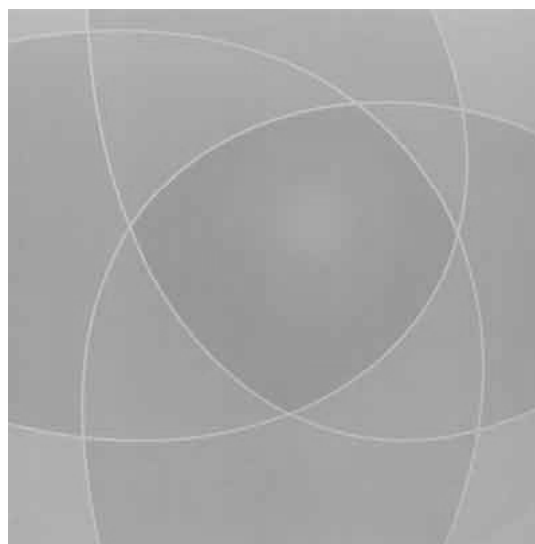
Children in Tajikistan are exposed to a higher risk of poverty compared to adults. The risk of poverty increases rapidly depending on the number of children under 15 years in a household. As a result of civil war the problem of street children has worsened. Another group that gives cause for concern is children under institutional care. Due to financial and physical constraints, the intellectual and emotional development of such children is in danger. These young people face difficulties as far as receiving further education or employment opportunities are concerned.

Older people (aged 65 and over) face a higher risk of being poor than other adults (22.7% are in the bottom fifth of the distribution of per capita expenditure compared with 20.8% of those aged 16-64). However, although they have an elevated risk of poverty, the older population constitute only a small portion of the total number of the poor (4.1 percent). The risk of poverty rises with age and percentage of the poor among the elderly (aged 75 and over) is higher than that among children. Therefore, the single elderly people are probably the poorest. According to data from the Ministry of Social Protection, there are around 9,000 single pensioners who are amongst the most vulnerable in society and in need of support.

Official statistics do not demonstrate any significant difference in the risk of poverty by gender. However, the economic status of women in the country is much worse than that of men. This can in part be explained by the fact that women are mainly employed in the public sectors of education and health. The level of salaries in these sectors is significantly lower than that in other spheres and this is further compounded by delays in paying salaries.

The health care system is going through a difficult situation. Public budget expenditures have declined significantly in real terms since 1991.

Female-headed households face particular problems. The civil war has led to approximately 25,000 households now being headed by women, mostly in the KHO and Garm group of rayons. Households headed by women frequently have less access to land and other agricultural resources.



As elsewhere the risk of being poor is inversely related to the level of education. Poverty is more common among those who have no secondary or higher education. The results of TLSS show that the probability of being classified as “very poor” (i.e. in the bottom fifth of the distribution) is two and a half times higher amongst people with no education than amongst those with higher education.

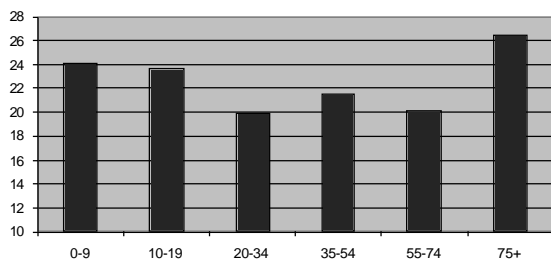
In contrast to the level of education, there is no clear connection between poverty and labour market status. The fact that a person has a job is not the important factor; rather it is whether or not a person, being employed, gets paid. It is also important to point out that employment-generated income provides only one third of the total income for the poorest 20% of households, but constitutes half of total income for the richest 20% of households.

### **9.3 The existing system of social protection**

The collapse of the traditional economic relations during transition has aggravated the already diminished material situation of the “traditionally poor” - most notably pensioners, large and single parent families. It gave rise to a new group of working poor. In parallel with the expansion of the number of vulnerable people, the state's capacity to finance social protection related activities has substantially declined.

In Tajikistan there are two types of social

Chart 1. Percentage who are 'poor' by age group



(TLSS)

allowances: the cash compensation programme that provides social allowances for the poor, and pensions provided for the elderly, disabled and needy population. Two reforms have been undertaken recently to improve the ways to effect such payments. The objectives were to reduce operational costs, as well as to simplify the application system by simplifying the rules on submitting required documents, and to move from monthly to quarterly payments. However, these reforms did not have significant effect.

The existing cash compensation system is not effective as very few persons actually receive the compensation, and because its real value is too low. The pension system functions a bit better compared to cash compensation system but still there are significant problems associated with arrears and low level of average pensions.

#### 9.4 Main directions of the Poverty Reduction Strategy

Poverty in Tajikistan is multifaceted and as such has many causes. Any poverty reduction strategy will therefore need to be comprehensive and address a diversity of underlying causes. The Government will rely in its poverty reduction strategy on the following key directions:

- Stimulation of labour intensive economic growth;
- Provision of basic social services;
- Targeted help to the poorest; and
- Efficient governance and security.

**9.4.1 Economic growth** is the principal mechanism through which Tajikistan can ensure ensure decent employment for population and achieve well-being. Such growth can be achieved by implementing a rational macroeconomic policy; restructuring of enterprises and expansion of the private

sector; development of agriculture, telecommunication, information, energy and transport sectors infrastructures with labour intensive employment.

Higher per capita growth requires greater initiative from the private sector. Therefore, the Government will implement enterprise restructuring and create an enabling environment for the expansion of the private sector.

Reform of the agricultural sector is a priority for poverty reduction in rural areas, and for the country as a whole as the majority of the population live in rural areas. The country's comparative advantages lie in its agricultural sector, with rich water resources, favourable agro-climatic conditions for crop production and live-stock farming. Since land resources are limited, increasing the productivity of farms is a key issue.

The Government will also take measures to create a competitive banking system, and to ensure stability in the provision of financial services both to the population and to industry. The Government will implement policies to stimulate the development of telecommunication and information infrastructures and to open up access to markets. It will act to increase Tajikistan's competitiveness in global trade, to improve transparency and security and to provide efficient state services.

The Government gives high priority to the efficient functioning of the transport sector as a vehicle for poverty reduction and economic growth. The development of the agricultural sector, as a key sector of the economy will increasingly depend on the availability of reliable transport to ensure effective distribution. The Government realises that an efficient transport system is a pre-requisite for the development of the private sector.

There is a lack of capital and excess of labour resources (real unemployment is estimated at more than 30%) in the country. The Government will implement labour-intensive policies to stimulate economic growth. In order to create a flexible labour market the Government will

analyse and review existing legislation, regulating the labour market and labour market related policy and social insurance programmes. Training and retraining programmes consistent with current needs will continue to be implemented. The Government will also conduct policies to provide all groups, including the poor, which give equal access to a number of industrial assets, such as infrastructure, land and credit in addition to creating opportunities for all citizens to realize their own human capital.

#### **9.4.2 Provision of basic social services**

The poor need to have adequate human potential to be in a position to enjoy existing and new opportunities. Access to good quality basic services such as education and health is not only a human right, but is also an essential component of poverty reduction. The Government will seek to improve the quality of education and health care provided to the poor, and will promote the broader participation of the poor people in social life.

#### **9.4.3 Targeted assistance to the poorest**

The important component of the poverty reduction strategy relates to the provision of targeted assistance to the poorest in society, i.e. children and the elderly.

#### **9.4.4 Efficient governance and security**

The key component of the proposed poverty reduction strategy is ensuring a safe and efficiently managed security situation where people can live and take care of themselves. The Government intends to implement institutional reforms to ensure efficiently provided public services.

Poverty reduction requires strong transparent and accountable institutions in the public and private sectors. Medium-term Financial Resources Spending Programme will be implemented to ensure transparent and efficient public expenditures. It will increase Tajikistan's opportunities in attracting foreign investments and mobilizing international assistance.

### **9.5 Existing impediments for poverty reduction**

In order to effectively implement the poverty reduction strategy, it is first necessary to

identify and assess existing obstacles within each of the four key directions. Based on this assessment medium and long-term measures will be developed to overcome these barriers.

#### **9.5.1 Barriers for rapid growth**

The collapse of traditional economic relations within the former USSR, civil war, and instability until 1997, all served to create a negative environment for both foreign and domestic investment within Tajikistan. With sharply declining GDP, hyperinflation and increasing unpaid employment over a period of time that adversely affected aggregate demand, the volume of investments dramatically declined.

1997 marked a turning point, and since then the economy has achieved positive growth. GDP in 1997 grew by 1.7%, in 1998 by 5.3%, in 1999 by 3.7% and in first half of 2000 by 6.5%. Inflation has been kept at an acceptable level, ranging 2.8 % to 16.6 %. Since 1997 there has been a gradual increase in real wages.

Currently the Government is following its policy of reform, meeting benchmarks within the time-framework established. However, lack of investment is now an acute problem, hampering productivity growth and improvements in the physical and institutional infrastructure of the country. This is a vicious circle as the poor state of existing infrastructure and high operational costs deters foreign investors whilst capital accumulation from domestic sources remains low. This in turn does not enable entrepreneurs to increase employment and income, and this restrains the growth of savings and reduces the level of budget revenues.

Productivity within industry remains low as many enterprises have been slow to adapt to new economic conditions. In the industrial sector much industrial capacity is underused. This is due to a variety of factors: many enterprises became economically unviable after the shift to market prices; some enterprises, built in soviet time, are much larger (and so have higher capacity) than is economically efficient; many enterprises are still using obsolete technologies; there has been a sharp drop in both domestic and external demand due to falling living

standards and the collapse of trade links. Many enterprises are now working at 20-30% of their capacity, and have a significant stock of unsold products. Only some of them are managing to produce goods competitively. These are mainly agricultural processing plants that increased production of cotton, silk, and fruits and vegetables. Significant parts of the industrial sector are not profitable at current price levels. Enterprises need restructuring, new technology and managers of high quality.

The private sector in Tajikistan remains embryonic and is largely confined to trade and production in a limited range of goods and services. The growth potential of private business remains unrealised.

Despite the fact that the labour force is well qualified, many workers are employed in low qualified and technical positions, especially in agriculture. Since independence, many people have lost their jobs. Nevertheless, the majority of people (85.4%) employed in 1999 had the same job as they had in 1997. New entrants to the labour market face particular difficulties in finding their first job and many remain unemployed. New job vacancies remain limited, despite the return to positive economic growth from 1997. The public sector is shrinking due to the lack of resources and is no longer able to provide employment for the majority of people.

In this context, the link between the labour market and poverty is related to the excess labour supply and the lack of market mechanisms to regulate this. Excess labour supply is associated with both demographic pressures, - Tajikistan continues to have a high, although declining, birth rate - and lack of demand in labour force.

Limited land resources and the high share of rural population aggravate problems within the labour market, despite the fact that people are highly educated. This has resulted in high level of unemployed or idle labour resources, which is mainly concentrated among young people and those entering the labour market for the first time, as well as among women in some regions.

### **9.5.2 Problems in education and health**

All levels of education are facing similar

problems resulting from the lack of resources. The provision of social services is the responsibility of local government. However, they lack adequate funds in the form of budget allocations and transfers. Thus, local state bodies are not able to finance, serve and maintain historically high quality social services.

Access to education is being impeded both from the demand and supply side. School attendance has dropped due to the fall in the quality of education itself as well as a rise in the number of children being kept at home due to financial or other problems.

About 79% of children of the relevant age group attend primary schools. This shows a decline compared to historic universal access to secondary education.

The perception that education has lost its value and prestige, particularly secondary education, is directly related to the very limited opportunities in the labour market, and the perceived irrelevance of the current school curricula to the demands of the modern labour market. Moreover many schools in rural area are currently in a state of disrepair.

There is a widening gap between the health care budget and the actual cost of care. Therefore the availability of care, in terms of beds etc, does not constitute accessibility of care. Access to health care has deteriorated despite the fact that there is an oversupply of facilities and personnel as fiscal constraints have led to a shortage of equipment, supplies, and drugs. The salaries of health workers are also a particular cause of concern. The salaries of health workers are typically less than half of the average wage in other sectors.

It should also be mentioned that not only have there been sharp reductions in budgetary allocations for health care, but those resources allocated have very often been used inefficiently. Allocations have favoured tertiary care above primary health care.

### **9.5.3 Institutional problems**

Since the declaration of independence, Tajikistan has made a significant progress in the creation of a market economy, and some

functions that were previously carried out by the State have now been delegated to the private sector. Despite this, no significant progress has been made in reforming the State management structure and institutions. There are still duplications in some functions between ministries and state agencies, and their role in policy making and planning remains at a low level. The management structure, staffing and underlying philosophy in many ministries and branches of local government continues to reflect their former function. The distribution of responsibilities between central and local authorities, and the lines of accountability, still needs to be improved.

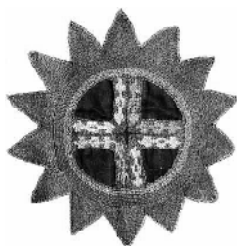
Progress in market reforms, particularly in rural areas, has been slow. The development of private business and trade has enabled some small firms to start their own business and for farmers to sell products from their vegetable gardens. However, informal constraints impede this process. It is critical therefore that state institutions are strengthened and reformed.

#### **Recommendations:**

- It is necessary to complete discussions of the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper on the government level and start its gradual implementation, coordinating the activities of the various governmental structures, ministries, committees and agencies and civil society institutions;
- The national poverty reduction policy should be linked with the policies of the international, economic, financial and other organizations that are working towards poverty reduction in the country;



- To increase efficiency of the whole poverty reduction campaign, the process should be made more transparent and accessible for the whole population;
- An enabling environment should be created so that the needy population themselves are active participants within the poverty reduction strategy. The poor population should have the opportunity to participate in all the phases of the strategy's implementation, having access to information and communication;
- Urgently implement Land Reform and to give agrarian land for use to dehqan farms;
- NGOs and civil society organisations should work jointly with the Government towards the realisation of Government programmes for the improvement of the living conditions of the population and the inclusion of vulnerable people within the process of SHD;
- Particular attention should be paid to ensuring the use of resources, social services and the environment by women, children, elderly people, minorities and other needy people;
- NGO and community groups should support programmes aimed at securing gender equity, health rehabilitation, social equity and ecological security.



## 10. Economic Growth and Public Budget

### 10.1 Economic growth

Since 1995 Tajikistan's economic reforms have aimed to facilitate transition to a market economy. A number of steps have been taken. Among these are the liberalisation of prices and foreign trade, the privatisation of state property, the creation of the right conditions for free enterprise, the strengthening of the national currency and the formulation and enactment of commercial and market based legislation. In 1997, output finally stopped declining and for the first time there was economic growth. In 1998, GDP grew by 5.3% and in 1999 by 3.7%.

By 1999, GDP had reached TR 1,345 billion. In 1999, industrial output grew by 5.6%, agricultural production grew by 3.8%, the volume of retail trade grew by 4% and foreign trade grew by 3%. According to the Ministry of Finance, in

1999 the revenue for the public budget was TR 213.3 billion or 107.6% of what was planned. State taxes revenues constituted TR139.4 billion, which was 103.6% of the figure in the initial budget plan.

In 1999, inflation as measured by wholesale producer prices was 60.7%, the CPI was 30.1%. Most of the price surge was caused by depreciation of the currency vis a vis the dollar, the annual average exchange rate in 1999 was TR1,237 to US \$1.

The Economic Reform Programme of RT for 1995-2000 and the Mid-Term Economic Strategy for 1998-2001 set out RT's fiscal and monetary policies. A stable financial system is considered as a precondition for economic growth. The new Tax Code, introduced in 1999, and a tightening of monetary policy brought about the reduction in inflation and the budget deficit.

In 1999, central government finance from income and officially received transfers was 15.8% of GDP, according to the Ministry of Finance. With the inclusion of international credits the revenue of the public budget in 1999 was 18.6% of GDP, by the data of SSA. The main sources of government income in 1999 were internal levies on goods and services, VAT, foreign trade taxes and external operations, and non-tax revenues.

State budget expenditure for the year was TR 236 billion or 92.5% of the target.

Chart 1. Structure of GDP (%)

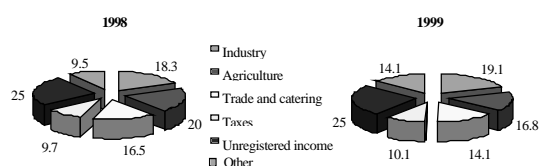


Table 1. Main macroeconomic indicators

	1999	As a % of 1998
GDP (billion TR)	1,345	103.7
Volume of the industrial Production (billion TR)	860	105.6
Volume of the agricultural production (billion TR)	418.7	103.8
Producer's prices	160.7	143.6
Consumer's prices	130.1	126.3
	(SSA)	

Table 2. Performance of public budget (mln TR and in %) in 1999

	Plan	Actual	% of plan	% to result	% to GDP
Total revenues	199,327.8	249,832.7	125.3	100	18.6
Tax	134,556.2	139,448.3	103.6	55.9	10.4
Non tax	55,420.3	57,528.7	103.8	22.9	4.3
Income from operations with capital	6,000.0	16,654.8	280	6.7	1.2
Official transfers	3,351.3	36,200.9	1,008	14.5	2.6
	(SSA)				

Table 3. The structure of taxes in 1999 (%)

Type of taxes	budget	GDP
VAT	12.5	2.3
Income tax	5.7	1.1
Tax from population	6.5	1.2
Sale of excise	3.3	0.6
Property tax	2.0	2.4
Royalty tax	3.5	0.7
From retail trade	19.0	3.5
(SSA)		

Table 4. Public budget expenditures in 1999 ( mln TR and in %)

	Plan	Actual	% of plan	% result	% GDP
Total	255,566.3	236,353.4	92.5	100	17.6
State management	48,560.5	44,860.6	92.4	19	3.3
Foreign trade	2,754.7	1,107.0	40.2	0.5	0.1
Law and Order protecting	23,503.6	22,153.8	94.3	9.4	1.6
Branches of economy	60,047.0	60,096.5	100.1	25.3	4.5
Social and cultural activities, of which	53,790.5	49,449.0	87.3	20.9	3.5
Defence	19,986.9	19,261.3	96.4	8.2	1.4
Public budget deficit and profit	-56,238.5	13,479.3			1.0
(SSA)					

The percentage of actual expenditure relative to planned expenditure for national economy was 99,5%, for foreign trade - 40.2% and for social and cultural activities was 87.3%.

The extent of privatisation and the procedures for privatising enterprises have become important measures of economic performance in the context of the RT's reform programme. By 1999, 1,460 enterprises had been privatised. Privatisation has been fairly concentrated geographically. The regional breakdown of the total number of privatised enterprises is 30 in GBAO, 373 in LO, 590 in KHO, 201 in Dushanbe, and 266 in RRS. In 1999, central government raised TR1,594 million through privatisation.

Industrial production increased in 1999. Out of 80 sectors of industry, production of 34 types of goods grew. The total cost of the production of 684 reporting

enterprises was 860 billion TR.

In 1999, in the energy sector, 15,797 MWH of electricity was produced and thermal energy production increased by 128.6%. Electricity production increased by 9.4 %. Last year the volume of gas extracted totalled 36.1 million m<sup>3</sup>; this was an increase of 105% over the

previous year. Coal production reached 19.1 thousand tons; an increase of 103% over the previous year. Production of construction materials grew by 141%.

Metallurgical enterprises increased production by 16.4% between 1998 and 1999. In metallurgy the strategy is to extract deposits that have already been found, and in future, as investment funds accumulate, to explore for new deposits.

There is potential to rebuild production and to put the economy on the path towards sustainable growth. A crucial factor in restoring the economy is the rational use of natural resources. Bringing enterprises back to the full capacity in a way that meets demands is the main factor for economic growth.

Gross agricultural output in 1999 was 418.7 billion TR, which was a 3.8% increase over the previous year. Output

Chart 2. Distribution of privatised enterprises by region

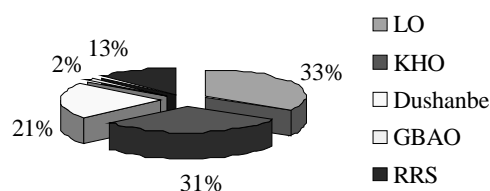
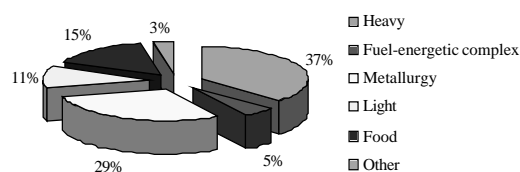


Table 5. Number of privatised enterprises in 1999 and since the inception of privatisation

	1999	Total
Industry	26	120
Construction	31	73
Transport and communication	16	46
Trade and catering	632	2,218
Everyday services	291	1,953
Agriculture	198	427
Other	266	721
Total	1,460	5,558
(SSA)		

Chart 3. Structure of industrial branches



(SSA)

from non-state agricultural enterprises grew by 114.6%. The non-state sector comprised 66.1% of gross agricultural production. In 1999, output of grain and cereals from farms and individuals was 475,100 tons, which is 5% less, than in 1998.

In June 1996, the President of the RT issued a Decree "On Reorganisation of the Agricultural Enterprises and Organisations" with the aim of encouraging the development of the private sector in agriculture. The Decree aims to develop the efficient and rational use of land and water resources, an increase of production and development of agricultural products. The process of transforming agricultural enterprises into what are known as "dehkan" (private) farms and other types of farms is very active. The non-state sector accounts for 57.4% of grain production, of which dehkan farms account for 10.1%, and individuals 47.3%.

Investment is an important factor in economic growth. Despite the recent economic stability, there is still a crisis of underinvestment and, in particular, capital investment from the public budget is decreasing. In 1999, capital investments in total amounted to TR102.9 billion or 7.7% of GDP, of which capital investment from the public budget accounted for 6.2%. Capital investment from the public budget fell by 25 billion TR, which is equivalent to 1.6% of GDP. Gross fixed capital formation does not

Table 6. Foreign investment in 1999  
(thousand US\$)

Direct	6,060.5
Other	518.1

(SSA)

Table 7. Foreign trade in 1999

	mln US\$
Total	1,351.8
Export	688.7
Import	663.1

(SSA)

exceed 4%. The other component of investment is domestic savings. At present domestic savings constitute 1.5 billion TR or 0.12% of GDP.

Foreign trade is an important factor for economic growth. In 1999, the foreign trade turn-over in RT was US\$1,352.5 million. Exports rose to US\$ 688.7 million, which is 15% increase over 1998.

The main exports are aluminium, cotton and cotton by- products, tobacco and tobacco products. Exports go mainly to non-CIS foreign countries: the share of exports to these countries constitutes 54% of total exports or US \$373.7 million. The country's imports are valued at US \$663.1 million, which is 7% less than in 1998. Imports are mainly from the CIS, the share of imports from the CIS is 78% or US\$ 515 million.

RT' main foreign trade partners are CIS countries. Overall in 1999 the volume of foreign trade with CIS countries increased by 28%, and with non-CIS countries decreased by 21%.

Sustaining economic growth depends on the quality and intensity of economic reform, in particular the formation and the efficiency of market structures and institutions; the efficient expansion of a wide range of free enterprise; the intensification of international economic co-operation, innovation, private investment and friendly environment.

### Recommendations:

- Further expansion of privatisation and promotion of entrepreneurship;
- Creation of an enabling environment for the expansion of the real economy and the supply of the consumption market;
- Increase the export potential of the country;
- Improve the management of the

- economy;
- Take steps to translate economic growth into poverty reduction.

## 10. 2 Public budget

Adequate financing of the social sector is required to promote sustainable human development.

In 1999, the public budget deficit was 23.7 billion or 1.8% of GDP. The credits from international financial organisations like the WB and ADB were used to cover the budget deficit. The main source of central government revenues is tax which makes up 55.9% of total revenues.

Social sector spending has recently constituted less than one third of all public expenditures. Social expenditure as a percentage of GDP in 1999 was allocated as follows: 2.1% on education, 1% on health, 1.77% on social protection, 0.1% on science and 0.35% on culture. Social cash transfers were 0.1% of GDP.

It was agreed in 1999 within the

serious social problems. In the 2000, budget the share of government expenditure on health and education should rise to 20.4%, but be kept below 22%, as agreed in credit for social sector restructuring

Government expenditure on education, in the context of reduced financing of social sectors, comprised 14% of the central government budget, which is US\$5 per capita. Actual expenditures were 12% of the total budget or about 2% of GDP. The budget for 2000 still shows a decline in the share allocated to education at 13,5%. Local governments do not have resources to finance schools and maintain a high level of social protection. To provide access to education for poor people, it is necessary to allocate an equal share of expenditure to the education. This share should be not less than 5% of GDP.

Reduced public resources gave rise to the the alternative ways of funding to provide services in health and education.

Table 8. Public budget expenditures for the social sectors, 1999 ( mln. TR)

	Plan	Actual	% of plan	% of actual
Social and cultural activities, of which	53,790.5	49,449.0	87.3	20.9
Education	29,760.8	27,958.4	93.9	11.8
Sport	187.6	266.6	142.1	0.0
Health	17,387.4	13,998.7	80.5	5.9
Social protection		2,502.4		1.1
Science and information	1,762.1	1,514.8	86.0	0.6

(SSA)

Table 9. Public expenditures for the social sector, 1999 and plan for 2000

	% 1999 budget	% of GDP	% 2000 budget
Education	11.8	2.1	13.5
Health	6.0	1.0	6.9
Social protection	1.1	0.2	1.3
Cash compensation	0.6	0.1	2.3
Total	19.5	3.5	24.0

(SSA)

framework of an international credit for reorganisation of the social sector that public budget expenditures for the social sectors, education and health, should be to 19% of the total budget. However, actual expenditure for these two sectors was 17.7%. One reason for the reduced spending has been through salary payment arrears, which has caused

Some payments for the services are informal. Today 30% of University students pay for their tuition. Students are also financed by their employers and student numbers have increased. Charges collected for schools are used for teachers' salaries. The effect of informal payments on the access of the poor to schools has not been researched. Some



type of payment is necessary in the present conditions in Tajikistan, but nevertheless it is important to ensure that children from poor families can access education. It is important not only to finance education, but also to reallocate resources within the government budget to expand access to education.

Table 10. Plan of the health care expenditures, 1999 (%)

	Local	Republican	State
Salaries	21.1	13.5	19.8
Municipal services	14.8	4.9	13.1
Meals	31.0	21.8	29.5
Medicine	17.9	12.3	16.9
Other	15.1	47.0	20.5

(WB)

The public budget allocations to the health sector has dropped in transition period to 1% of GDP and the decline impacted on the capacity to provide health care. This was caused also by low financing from the local budgets. Salaries were 30% of the budget. The capital

Table 11. Public budget for social protection (% to GDP)

	1998	1999	2000 % plan
Social protection fund	1.9	1.8	1.8
Cash compensations	0.4	0.2	0.4
Total	2.3	1.9	2.2

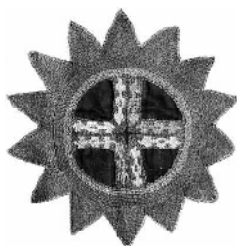
(WB)

investments has been reduced by half during the last five years.

The main part of the expenses is allocated to hospitals and polyclinics. After independence with the growth of the number of vulnerable people the capacity of the state to protect them has weakened. The official social protection network is not efficient any more. Social subsidies have dropped from the 14% of the total revenues of households in the soviet time to 5% in 1999. People rely more on the unofficial help from relatives, neighbours, communities and NGOs.

#### Recommendations:

- It is necessary to improve the distribution mechanism of resources;
- It is necessary to increase allocation of resources to basic education and primary health care services;
- It is important to attract the resources of donors and the private sector to support the social sectors.



## 11. Rural Development

The expansion of opportunities in rural areas is important for both enhancing the quality of people's lives and improving national economic growth. The natural environment in Tajikistan is favourable for rural development. More than 950 rivers irrigate the fields and an average of 300 days of sunshine a year allow for two harvests a year.

Tajikistan does not have abundant land resources. 93% of its territory is covered by mountains, and agrarian land - at various altitudes from plains to highlands - accounts for just 7% of its territory. There are 720,000 ha of arable land, that is 0.12 ha of per capita.

Today the rural population is 4.5 million (73.5 % of the total population). Of these 47.9% are of working age (15-59), and 3.6% are aged from 60 to 69. According to data from the TLSS, about 80% of poor households live in rural areas. 65% of the labour force is employed in agriculture. However, because of low salaries, the rural population sustain their livelihoods by informal activities and the production of food on their private plots, as well as by trading. The priority for poverty alleviation is the expansion of access to land.

Dekhan farms have played an important role in the growth of agricultural production. The gross agricultural product of the dekhkan farms in 1999 was 273.5 billion TR. Of all dekhkan farms, 39.7% are in GBAO, 6% in LO, 13.6% in KHO, and 40.6% in RRS.

### 11.1 Land reform in action

Following independence, Tajikistan started on a programme of land privatisation. According to Article 13 of the Constitution of the RT, land, water and other natural wealth is state property, and the state guarantees their rational use in the interests of the people. At the same time, the state supports free enterprise and protection of all types of property.

The main driving forces for the development of agriculture and the formation of market relations were:

- Decree of the President of the RT of 1992, which gave households the right to land and its inheritance;
- Decree of the President of the RT "On Renting the Land" of 1992, under which the kolkhozes were entitled to rent the land to small farmers for periods ranging between 1 to 10 years. The Ministry of Agriculture formed 80 new farms ranging in size from 500 to 1,500 ha;
- Decrees of the President of the RT of 1995 and 1997 on the allotment of 75,000 ha to households. Providing people with access to land was central in the solution of several problems. 35 thousand new jobs were created. This increased the income of the rural population, helped to improve living conditions and ensure the supply of food. In addition, households were able to cover not only their own needs, but also to expand trade in urban markets;
- Land Code of 1996, which strengthened the process of land reform. It became the

Table 1 Number of farms and their estimated area as of June 1999

Types of farms	Number	Area	Share %
Joint stock	43	55,000	6
Officially leasing farms	84	100,000	11
Collective farms (kolkhoz)	239	300,000	34
State farms (sovkhoz)	196	250,000	29
Dehkan farms	11,500	70,000	8
Dehkan associations	82		
Lease's associations	23	100,000	11
Total		880,000	100%

(WB)

Table 2 Data concerning registered dekhkan farms

Number of registered farms	9,174
Cropping area (ha)	71,600
Average area per farm (ha)	7.8
Volume of the production, mln of roubles	356.73
Share in the structure of GDP in % (SSA)	4
	2.6

basis for the regulation of land relations, the rational use of land, renewal of land fertility, and the expansion of various types of farming. By the law, there are no limitations on use of land, based on race, gender, religion and nationality;

- Government Resolution of the RT "On Measures to Implement the Decree of the President as of 9 June 1999" and "On the Reorganisation of the Agricultural Enterprises", according to which the gradual reorganisation of 160 agricultural enterprises is stipulated. As of the January 1, 2000, 110 agricultural enterprises have been reformed, creating 426 farms with the total area of 271.2 thousand ha. The Committee on Land Resources was formed by the Government. Kolkhoz and sovkhoz. The wish of their members was to reorganise the existing institutions in to farms, collective and joint enterprises, joint stocks, and others. In 1998, there were 358 kolkhoz, 345 sovkhoz, 35 rented farms, 33 co-operatives, and more than 60 joint stock companies, and 65 gardening organisations working on industrial land. In rural areas there are 68 small enterprises, where 1,431 people are employed, of which 155 women.

During the first stages of privatisation, small and medium dekhkan farms with an average area of 20 - 50 ha were set up. In the summer of 1999, the state started the process of reforming 160 kolkhoz into larger farms.

### 11.2 Constraints

Some problems continue to impede the agricultural development and aggravate the poverty of the rural population. The slow land reform deter the efficient use of land for agricultural production and creation of jobs. The current management of the cotton industry leads to the unpaid employment. Management systems fall behind the requirements of the market economy. The main problems of the agricultural sector are:

- Equal access to the land. Getting the right to land is a complicated procedure. Permission has to be received from the kolkhoz, jamoat, local land commission, notaries, Ministry of Justice, and the tax inspection authorities. Given this, it is no wonder that the reform of the state agricultural enterprises to the dekhkan (private) farms has been slow. To June 1999, only 71,600 ha have been given for private use;
- Limited access to the markets. The constraints are unofficial high payments, and in the case of cotton: lack of competition, interference of the state, payments arrears and low prices for the raw cotton;
- Lack of resources, high quality seeds and water for irrigation;
- When the land is allotted to the people, the regional hukumats think that their task is fulfilled. However, it is estimated by experts that 70% of farms do not have the necessary technical means, such as tractors and trucks. By the end of 1999, in the agricultural enterprises 46% of tractors and 65% of trucks were out of operation. The largest number of broken tractors are in GBAO, KHO, RRS. Due to fuel shortages, in 1999, 47% less diesel fuel and 93% less petrol was provided to agricultural enterprises than in 1998;
- Though more than 70% of the productive assets are in kolkhoz and sovkhoz, they produce only 30-35% of the gross agricultural production;
- Though there are more than 10 research institutions on agriculture, their scientific results are not implemented fully.

The other problems are such as the problem of the accumulated debts of the agricultural enterprises, the collapse of the irrigation system, lack of subsidies for the water and electricity use, deterioration of the quality of specialists, weakened land and water use institutions.

### 11.3 Agriculture for industry

The future prospects of 80 branches of industry depend upon progress within agriculture. Industries such as cotton processing and textile manufacturing are almost exclusively dependent upon

Tajikistan has significant potential in agricultural science. Within the biological sciences alone, there are more than 10 research institutions working within the Academy of Sciences, Academy of Agriculture, and the Tajik Agrarian University. There are more than one thousand highly qualified research fellows, of whom there are 10 academicians, 20 associates, 50 doctors of sciences, and more than 400 candidates of biology. Much useful research has been carried out, but not all of them have been put into practice. Many types of wheat and cotton have almost perished. The research institutions should pay more attention to seed cultivation.

domestically produced raw materials. Thanks to recent growth in the agricultural sector, for the first time since independence positive growth in the national economy has been achieved. According to the WB data, cotton covers more than 30% of the irrigated land, and accounts for 30% of exports and 30% of all state tax revenues. State control over cotton production was abolished in 1996. In 1999, 320 thousand tons of cotton was harvested, mainly by hand, from 240 thousand ha. The area of land devoted to cotton production has recently been reduced by 17%, with a subsequent reduction in cotton production of 62%. The area under cotton was reduced in favour of cereals, in order to address the national deficiency of grain.

#### **11.4 Finance in rural areas**

The official banking sector in Tajikistan currently consists of 25 licensed commercial banks, of which the 4 largest are responsible for 70% of credit and 90% of depositories.

During the period of macroeconomic instability opportunities for credit deteriorated. Given the complex financial situation in many households, under a resolution passed in 1997, the Government took over all debts in the mountainous areas of Tajikistan, amounting to around 4 billion TR. The debt recovery period for farms in the plains and agricultural industrial enterprises was extended for a further 5 years. This included about 2.5 billion TR. These measures provided significant financial help to public enterprises. However despite this, the economic conditions of both public and rented farms remained very poor, and in 1999 the Government converted the debts

of some enterprises into long-term loans (approx. 8 billion roubles).

By the order of the Government, over the period 1995-99 the National Bank of Tajikistan and commercial banks have granted privileged (zero interest) credits to agricultural enterprises in the amount of about \$203 million or 314 billion TR. On average \$180-300 has been spent per hectare under cotton. According to agricultural experts, average cotton yields should be around 25 centner (1 centner = 100 kg) per hectare. However, in reality, the average harvest amongst most farms has been 12.8 i.e. half that expected.

The main reason of the decline of the production is inefficient management. The system of administration still is still old. There is a need to reform management at all levels within the agricultural sector. The Departments in the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation, and in joint stock companies, often duplicate each other's functions. Lack of coordination impedes reforms. Any future strategy should be aimed at ensuring equal distribution of income based on the stimulation of economic growth. In order to reduce poverty, agricultural assets should be transferred from the state to private hands. Assistance in the form of micro-credit should be granted to vulnerable people for income-generating.

The public budget includes some provision for financing the agrarian reform. In addition, international donors are also providing support in this area. A joint WB project is also being prepared to improve the efficiency of water use and the reconstruction of the irrigation system.

International donors have also provided micro-credits in rural settlements, targeted at vulnerable regions and groups of people (UNDP, WB, GAA, CARE, "Save the Children/US", WFP and others). It is estimated that the livelihoods of more than 90% of beneficiaries have improved - a remarkable success story. The WFP provides support to vulnerable families by expanding access to land through provision of a lease contract. Beneficiaries sign a contract for 4 years for a plot of land varying in size

between 0.5 to 1 ha. They then pay approximately 10-12% of income for rent and water. In the period up to June 1999 about 19,000 households on 12,400 ha had participated in the WFP project.

### 11.5 Developing high quality seeds

In 1998, the grain harvest was 500 thousand tons. However, in 1999 the harvest amounted to just 475 thousand tons of grain, a decrease of 3.8 centner per hectare. The reduction in yield is the result of poor quality seeds, poor farming technique, lack of fuel, and delays in collecting the crops. The main task is now to improve seed cultivation. In



order to provide farms with high quality seeds, it is necessary to develop and organise seed producing farms. International organisations, such as UNDP, WFP, FAO, GAA and others have provided assistance in the provision of seeds to households.

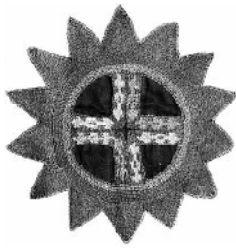
The agricultural sector presents significant opportunities for the country, but at present these opportunities are not being fully exploited. The main task in agriculture is the provision of wealth and well being to people. For this, new ways of achieving efficiency, especially in grain production, should be



examined. For the sound development of the economy it is necessary to change the traditional approach to land management and use, and to intensify the implementation of agrarian reform. The main factors constraining agricultural development are poor infrastructure, lack of inputs, markets, information and slow reforms both within the farms and in legislation.

#### Recommendations:

- Ensure greater and equal access to land;
- Inform share holders on their right to land in dehqan farms and coops;
- Develop flexible management practices for the benefit of people;
- Expand the freedom in choosing crops;
- Strengthen the institutional capacities for small scale production of cotton;
- Improve irrigation systems;
- Expand targeted forms of micro-financing;
- Develop agriculture with regard to wider ecological factors;
- Improve management, crediting and accountability;
- Include the indicators of the use of resources for the assessment of success;
- Strengthen the infrastructure and equip farms with new technology;
- Speed up the reforms.



## 12. International Assistance

The Republic of Tajikistan is now recovering from a period of political and socio-economic crises. Civil war, natural calamities, and the breakdown of the economic relations between the former Soviet republics caused the collapse of the economic system, reduced the functional capacity of industrial and agricultural enterprises and deteriorated the country's infrastructure.

However, Tajikistan cannot solve the complex social and economic problems of the post war period alone, and at present international organisations and some national governments are rendering significant and valuable assistance.

### 12.1 International assistance

The main aim of humanitarian activities in Tajikistan to date has been to support the peace process through programmes focussing on the social protection of vulnerable people and projects on the reintegration of ex-combatants and returnees. Humanitarian assistance to Tajikistan has played a significant role in saving the lives of vulnerable people. However, with the conclusion of the peace process in early 2000, the international community is now exploring the possibilities of addressing critical development requirements in parallel to humanitarian assistance.

Table 1 Humanitarian assistance in 2000

Donors	US\$	%
ECHO	5,641,794	17.52
Sweden	2,055,209	6.38
Germany	1,423,922	4.42
Denmark	822,281	2.55
Finland	752,663	2.34
USA	665,067	2.07
Norway	609,989	1.89
Switzerland	226,605	0.70
Ireland	124,984	0.39
United Kingdom	93,326	0.29
Others	19,779,698	61.44
Total	32,195,538	100.00

(OCHA)

Whilst external humanitarian aid rendered by international organisations to socially vulnerable groups of the population would be needed for several years during post conflict period, relief assistance alone will not be sufficient to ensure the sustainable recovery of the social sector and the economic infrastructure. Parallel to humanitarian needs are the critical development requirements, which will help the country break from continued economic decline and its collapsed infrastructure.

In accordance with the Resolution of the 54th session of the General Assembly, the Secretary General Kofi Annan presented a Consolidated Inter-Agency Appeal for Humanitarian Assistance to Tajikistan in 2000. The Appeal includes a number of projects that promote transition from pure relief to rehabilitation and more sustainable development in the fields of food security, health, water supply, sewage, education, reintegration of former combatants and returnees, and the rehabilitation of the urban and rural infrastructure.

The scale of rehabilitation activities that are actually implemented will depend upon the volume of financial resources received from the donor countries. The volume of assistance received from donor countries in response to the Consolidated Appeal has fallen over time. In 2000, only \$18.3 million (55.7%) of a total requirements of \$34.8 million was actually allocated by donor countries in response to the UN Appeal.

In recent years the RT has used credits from international financial institutions for post conflict rehabilitation of the social sectors and infrastructure. A credit of US\$10 million from the World Bank has been used to reconstruct damaged structures. The rehabilitation in the Karategin zone 240 structures, as roads

bridges, schools, hospitals, electricity lines, and water supply systems was covered by this credit. The WB has also supported micro projects in other regions of Tajikistan financed by TACIF.

Under the leadership of the WFP, the international NGOs CARE, GAA, "Save the Children/US", Mercy Corp and others have continued to provide targeted food assistance to widows, elderly people living alone, single parent families and other destitute and displaced. WFP distributed 19,311 tons of food commodities during 1999 for 373,000 beneficiaries. So, during 1999 some 373,000 beneficiaries received food assistance through the Vulnerable Group Feeding Programme, Food-for-Work, Land Lease and Schools Feeding projects. From July 1999, WFP shifted its focus to rehabilitation and recovery activities. The number of beneficiaries was reduced to 370,000 compared to 500,000. The food requirements stayed the same though, since the Food-for-Work activities have been expanded. However, in 2000 WFP had to focus mainly on emergency assistance to over a million people severely affected by the drought.

In September 1999, the FAO conducted an assessment of food security in 110 households in KHO. The results of the survey found that one third of the households' food needs were covered by their own production and cropping. Half was covered by purchased products from the market, and the remainder was covered by humanitarian help. According to the TLSS, 77% of households consumed food products grown on their private plots at home, and 23% received humanitarian aid. Humanitarian assistance accounted for 8% of the total household income of poor families compared to 4% of rich families. More than 60% of those interviewed reported that the harvest of wheat in 1999 was considerably lower than in 1998 because of the poor quality of seeds and lack of fertilisers.

In 1999, assistance to agriculture mainly focused on supplying farms with seeds, fertilisers, tools, and techniques and on land rehabilitation. In the Karategin valley and

Khatlon oblast UNDP/UNOPS and FAO provided the means of production to returnees and also helped to improve veterinary services.

In the health sector a positive result was achieved in combating malaria and typhoid thanks to international assistance from UNICEF and WHO, along with other NGOs. The public budget for health care is still very limited and in 1999 the level of health expenditures per capita was just \$1 per annum. People could not afford to buy medicine to treat even infectious diseases. UNFPA has provided technical assistance, equipment and the supply of contraceptives. WHO technical assistance has also strengthened the capacity building of the national system of health.

Major investments are needed in the reconstruction of the water supply system, as contaminated water causes water-born intestinal diseases. The situation is particularly acute in rural areas, where only 35% of people have access to safe water is 35%. Less than 17% of population have access to central sewage. UNDP/UNOPS has conducted the rehabilitation of the water supply for 65,000 people in Kulyab. With the support of UNICEF, IFRC and NGOs, the pumps and filters were repaired.

Between January and October 1999, UNHCR repatriated 4,000 refugees from Turkmenistan, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan. The total number of repatriated refugees was 5,000. It is expected that 5,000 more refugees will return to the country in 2000. UNHCR has provided assistance with the reconstruction of ruined houses.

#### **12.2 UNDP assistance in poverty reduction**

UNDP is implementing through UNOPS a number of labour intensive projects focussed on the rehabilitation of infrastructure and reintegration of ex-combatants in Karategin valley and KHO. The total number of beneficiaries is about 2 million people. These programmes are supported by the Governments of the USA, Canada, Switzerland, and Japan. Within the framework of the programmes, the

Table 2. Funding to the 2000 UN Consolidated Inter- Agency Appeal for Tajikistan as of 19 January 2001 (US\$)

Appealing Agency (Jan-Dec 2000)	Appeal requirements	Contributions	Carryover	Total resources available	Unmet requirements	Requirements covered (%)
FAO	3,515,200	802,430	0	802,430	2,712,770	22.8
IOM	1,895,000	0	0	0	1,895,000	0.0
OCHA	587,968	100,000	0	100,000	487,968	17.0
UNCHR	125,430	0	0	0	125,430	0.0
UNDP	3,229,938	93,750	0	93,750	3,136,188	2.9
UNFPA	1,325,258	0	0	0	1,325,258	0.0
UNHCR	1,000,000	480,000	0	480,000	520,000	48.0
UNICEF	2,235,000	473,516	0	473,516	1,761,484	21.2
WFP	16,706,206	15,576,654	8,738,327	24,314,981	0	100.0
WHO	4,221,820	760,821	0	760,821	3,460,999	18.0
Total	34,841,820	18,287,171	8,738,327	27,025,498	15,425,097	55.7

(OCHA)

rehabilitation of roads, bridges, airports and markets are being reconstructed, as well infrastructure related to education, health, water supply, and agriculture. In 1999, in the Shaartuz region, 88 subprojects on the reconstruction of infrastructure have been completed (amounting to \$1,064,204) and 87 subprojects are on going (\$1,170,006). In the Kulyab region, 86 subprojects have been completed (\$1,609,471) and 47 subprojects are on going (\$968,098). In the Garm region 74 subprojects have been completed (\$824,478) and the implementation of 119 subprojects are on going (\$1,955,103).

The reintegration programme in the Garm region provides jobs for the former combatants. In 1999, UNDP/UNOPS

“Reconstruction, Rehabilitation and Development Programme” started realisation of 77 projects supported by USAID (\$1,570,000) and the Governments of Canada and Norway (\$1,000,000). The progress in stability in this region is a mark of the success of the UNDP/UNOPS activities and participation of all groups of population in the development of the region. This is important for the stability of the country. The strengthening and continuation of these projects is a priority for the Government, as any reduction in the projects will cause unemployment among former ex-combatants with the associated risk that they may take up weapons again. The FAO, WFP, GAA, PSF have also provided food and medicine aid to these communities.

People are no longer passive recipients of the humanitarian aid, but rather they have actively participated in the decision making processes concerning long term development, in particular: the creation of jobs, the expansion of opportunities for women, the provision of micro-credits and seeds to families for agricultural products, and the expansion of access to social services.

UNDP development projects play an important role in resolving conflict situations and defending the rights of minorities. Thus, UNDP through UNOPS office in Khujand has recently opened a project in LO (Sughd oblast), which is also operating in the territory of Kyrgyzstan to ease social tensions caused by the use of the water resources.

### **A severe drought damages the wheat and grain harvest**

In 2000 Tajikistan has experienced a severe drought-the worst drought to hit the country in 74 years. Rain-fed wheat crops have failed in most parts of the country resulting in dramatic food shortages. Obsolete irrigation systems contribute to the gravity of the crises. It is estimated that nearly half of the population are affected by the drought, of which WFP considers 1.2 million to be in direct need of food assistance until the next harvest in July 2001. The Donor Alert requested a total US\$ 76.6 million, representing the most urgent requirements of the drought-affected population.

UNDP's mission is to assist the Government in poverty reduction by training and the implementation of projects aimed at poverty reduction, the empowerment of women and environmental protection. With the financial and technical support of UNDP and the WB, in May 1999 the State Statistical Agency carried out the first "Tajik Living Standards Survey". This survey filled the information gap by providing a profile of poverty within the country and ensuring all the relevant Ministries have access to this information. Thus, the technical, and statistical tools were put in place for monitoring poverty reduction.

### **12.3 International economic cooperation**

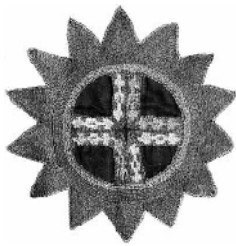
It is worth mentioning the initiative of ESCAP in the development of the special UN Programme for the Economies of Central Asian countries (SPECA). This programme is a joint activity of the CAR in transition, and it is designed for 5-6 years. Several meetings of the working groups have been organised to discuss such of issues as transport, the simplification of customs procedures, effective use of water and energy resources. This programme has also supported the organisation of an International Conference on Tajikistan, within the context of a general strategy of regional development and attraction of foreign investments.

In an environment where peace and national accord have been achieved, now the priorities for Tajikistan are the mobilisation of domestic opportunities to revive the economy, the creation of incentives for foreign investments, and the attraction of resources of international financial and credit institutions, such as the IMF, EBRD, WB, ADB, IBID. All these financial and credit institutions are partners in the RT, and grant credits to the Government of the RT for reconstruction

In Andarak, south of Kyrgyzstan, there are three villages with a total population of 9.5 thousand people. In one of them, located up the river, there live 4,000 Tajiks. In the irrigation season water did not always reach the Kyrgyz villages, located down the river. Lack of water caused the social tension. Even the Council of Elders could not relieve the tension. UNDP/UNOPS office in Khujand, having studied the system of water supply in Andarak, opened a project for the water supply of three villages. The project involves the laying of 16 km of pipes, construction of purification plants and reservoirs for the irrigation. During the implementation of the project Tajiks and Kyrgyzs cooperated together in the search for a common solution, taking shared responsibility for the success of the project and its sustainability. The water supply is improving. In the course of the joint work the confidence and good will between two communities has been strengthened. Thus, human development has been promoted by the equal participation of the minorities in the decisions concerning their lives.

and rehabilitation of priority sectors. The other very important trend of international economic cooperation is the intensification of Tajikistan's integration within the international and regional organisations.

Tajikistan is a participating member of a number of interstate bodies including the CIS, the Central Asian Economic Community, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation, and the Organisation of the Islamic Conference. Continuing co-operation within the framework of these international bodies is a priority. At the same time, the activation of Tajikistan's relations with the countries of the EC is also a priority. The countries of the EC are main donors to the international humanitarian organisations. Tajikistan now has the opportunity to expand and deepen bilateral cooperation with the countries of Europe, who can become active partners in the course of the financial and credit revival of its economy. Within Asia, the priority partners for Tajikistan are such states as Japan, the Republic of Korea, the Chinese People's Republic and some other countries of South- Eastern Asia.



## Section III.

### Threats to Human Security

#### 13. Morbidity and Mortality

Previously the notion of “security” was interpreted in the narrowest sense, meaning only protection from nuclear extinction and other threats to the independence and territorial integrity of a country. However, this understanding referred more to the state, than to an individual. In accordance with this understanding, a system of security was created so that priority was given first to the security of the state and then to the security of the society and finally the individual.

With independence, Tajikistan experienced real and potential threats to its fragile sovereignty and internal stability. Weak institutions to enforce the observance of laws, growing inequalities in the distribution of income, the consequences of long civil confrontation and several natural calamities all combined to threaten the social, economic and political development of the country. Given these circumstances the Government faced the necessity of ensuring security to people, as well as society and the state.

In Tajikistan the most common concerns are the problems of poverty, criminality, epidemic diseases, the ecological situation, and the lack of energy, and resources for social programmes on education, health and social protection. In the years of confrontation a significant proportion of resources were allocated to the armed forces, and the needs and interests of common people were overlooked. Thus, many years of civil war caused not only the loss of human lives, but also the growth of military expenditure. They absorbed already scarce resources, which could have

been used for education, and other aspects of human development.

For the majority of the people, the feeling of personal security is related to security in their everyday life and confidence in the future. Will they work tomorrow and have a source of income? Will they be harassed by criminals? Do they feel protected from hunger, disease, unemployment and ecological disasters? Human security encompasses access to social services, opportunities for free and safe choice, protection from violence, deprivations and negative impact from environment. Thus, human security is directly linked with sustainable human development. Without development it is difficult to achieve all types of security not only human, but also social and political security. At the same time if people do not feel they are protected in everyday life, it is difficult to achieve sustainable development.

Increasing poverty slows down human development and weakens security. These negative factors push people to search for other sources of income, sometimes just for survival, through the narcotics business, corruption, and it spreads alarm and instability among population. The causes of social instability and conflicts lie not only in the negative impact of external factors, but also in the horizontal inequalities and deepening deprivations of people. In this context the necessity of a new approach to both governance and security is evident.

Such an approach should serve the interests of people and ensure their basic needs.

“Human security will be regarded as universal, global and indivisible. Just imagine every drug, that quietly kills, every disease that silently travels, every form of pollution that roams the globe, every act of terrorism that destroys life senselessly,... we shall realise today that concerns for human security are more globalized today. Drugs, and AIDS and pollution, and terrorism stop at no national frontier today.”

(Mahbub ul Haq. New Imperatives of Human Security, UNDP,1995)

Priorities in the policy of security should change:

- from security of state and territory to security of an individual;
- from security through arms to security through sustainable coherent development.

One of the most important tasks should be the fight against human insecurity in everyday life and the elimination of its causes, including TB, AIDS, drugs, corruption, violation of human rights and freedoms, lack of access to safe water and nutrition, income inequalities and environmental pollution. The list of these threats can be broken down into: economic, personal, ecological and others. The following sections deal with each of these areas in turn and recommendations on priority actions are proposed.

### 13. Morbidity and mortality

The health of population, according to WHO, includes the overall physical, mental and social well-being of the population. Only healthy people that are full of life can bring up and educate a healthy future generation and promote sustainable human development. Life expectancy in Tajikistan is 68.4. The health of the population depends not only on access to health services, but also on nutrition, living conditions of population, and ecological factors.

A negative consequence of transition has been an increase in the morbidity (ill health)



of the population. The population suffers from chronic as well as infectious diseases such as TB, malaria, and STDs - diseases which prior to independence were largely controlled, with low incidence.

Table 1 shows mortality in Tajikistan in 1998 and 1999 by cause of death. Mortality from diseases associated with blood circulation constituted almost half of all mortality in 1999, accounting for the deaths of 10,8 thousand of people. This was an increase of 9% on 1998. Absolute levels of mortality from diseases of the digestive system also grew by 2.6%, largely as a result of poor nutrition and consumption of contaminated water and products, associated with the poor preservation of food stuffs.

#### 13.1 The growth of diseases associated with stress and life style

Ill health can be caused by increased stress and poor nutrition, as well as life-style factors such as smoking and drinking. The growing level of drug addiction in the RT is a matter of concern. Drug use, smoking and

Table 1. Mortality by cause, 1998-1999 ( number of people)

	1998	1999
Total number of deaths, of which	26,816	25,384
From blood circulation disease	9,896	10,786
From respiratory disease	4,847	3,166
From infectious and parasitic diseases of which	2,402	1,872
TB	443	480
From tumours	1,439	1,582
From digestive disease	1,115	1,144
From incidents, trauma, poisons	2,082	1,522

(SSA)

Table 2. Life style indicators, 1990-1997

	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997
Number of cigarettes smoked per capita	1,070	962	621	1,080	1,231	1,251	1,263	1,241
Average amount of calories per day per capita	2,668	2,130	2,335	2,338	2,300	2,265	2,129	n/a

(WHO, MH, 1999)

alcohol consumption all impact upon the potential of future generations. In order to reduce the health risks associated with lifestyle choices it is important to increase the level of health awareness amongst the population. In 1998, a number of public health initiatives aimed at improving the health of the nation were launched, including programmes on combating smoking and consumption of alcohol. The benefits for health of sports clubs and other facilities have also been recognised and in 1999 in RT 98 sport schools offered various kinds of sport to 27,626 children and teenagers.

Inappropriate, irregular and insufficient nutrition along with frequent diseases, pregnancies and deliveries have resulted in a growth in the number of people suffering from anaemia in Tajikistan. National experts estimate that 80% of pregnant women suffer from iron deficiency; and amongst women of fertile age prevalence of anaemia has increased from 32% to 56%. The Government has adopted a national programme on the reduction of anaemia, with the aim of reducing the prevalence of anaemia to 30% by 2001. The programme includes preventive measures such as enrichment of wheat flour with iron as well as treatment of iron deficiency.

Living conditions also impact upon health. Lack of electricity and heating combined with overcrowding, particularly in rural areas, have contributed to the increase in respiratory infections. Frequent power cuts and electricity shortages have meant that more families have become dependent on organic fuel as a source of heat and cooking fuel. Large rural families often live in one room, where the air pollution caused by burning wood for heating is very high.

Children in particular are suffering. Each year, more than 400,000 cases of acute respiratory infections are registered among children under 14. Pneumonia accounts for one in every 15 such cases. The majority of children who die from respiratory infections either received no qualified medical help or applied for help too late. According to data from OCHA, in the first nine months of 1999 2,500 children died from the infectious diseases and 400 children died from typhoid.

Table 3. Main children diseases in 1999  
(thousand of people)

Name of illness	Under 14	% children under 14
Infectious	153.2	5.9
Digesting	51.6	2.0
Nervous system	52.1	2.0
Blood circulation	31.5	1.2
Respiratory	420.8	16.3
Trauma and poisoning	44.2	1.9

(SSA)

Table 4. Causes of child mortality under 1 (people)

	RT
Infectious	540
Respiratory	636
Pneumonia	14
In born pathology	128
In prenatal state	565
Of all causes	2,220

(SSA)

28% of children under the age of 5 annually suffer from diarrhoea.

In 1999, 5,588 people were assessed by the "medical qualifying commission" registered as disabled. The majority (87%) were of the lowest category of disabled but of employable age. Just over a third were women (37%), three-quarters of whom were of the lowest category. The number of persons newly registered as disabled on the basis of blood circulation diseases increased by 6.8% between 1998 and 1999, digestive disease by 1.8 times, and trauma by 1.5 times. In response to this, in 1999 the Institute of Gastroenterology organised a number of seminars on appropriate nutrition and the prevention of digestive diseases.

### 13.2 Infectious diseases

The weakening of public health and sanitation services over the last decade has resulted in the growth of infectious diseases such as dysentery, typhoid, malaria, and TB. The incidence of TB grew by 349% between 1993 and 1998, and malaria increased 150 fold between 1990 and 1997.

Low quality drinking water is the main cause of the rise in intestinal infections. According to the data from the Republican sanitary epidemiological stations, only 55% of the population have access to clean water. 80% of water pipes are leaking, with the result that water is contaminated. There

Table 5. Morbidity of population with infectious diseases per 100,000 population

Morbidity	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
TB	39.61	30.08	11.74	15.68	32.24	28.10	35.45	40.8	42
Syphilis	1.70	2.90	4.93	7.86	14.75	19.16	22.38	16.3	8.6
Malaria	5.50	7.27	11.14	42.39	106.00	282.71	497.7	322.7	222
Diphtheria	0.09	0.29	12.20	33.53	77.38	24.98	11.96	2.8	1.0
Tetanus	0.06	0.02	0.04	0.05	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.04	
Poliomyelitis	2.15	0.09	0.25	0.46	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.00
AIDS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

(WHO, MH, SSA, 1999)

is a lack of chlorine for water purification and measures taken to improve the quality of water are confined to big towns. The majority of the rural population use water from open sources. Unless the quality of water is improved, there remains a risk of a further outbreak of cholera.

A number of programmes have contributed to the health care of population. Their aims reflect global priorities and the programmes are supported by various international organisations such as WHO, UNICEF, UNFPA and UNAIDS. The Ministry of Health, with the help of international organisations as WHO and UNICEF, has conducted national immunisation days in 1998 and 1999. Polio in 1999 was reduced to 0.69 cases per 100,000 children under 15. Cases of diphtheria fell from 77.4 per 100,000 in 1994 to 2.8. However, the incidence of new TB cases grew from 1,647 cases in 1996 to 2,553 in 1999 and TB control has emerged as a priority health issue.

Another priority is control of malaria. In KHO regions, neighbouring with Afghanistan, repatriated refugees have acted as vehicles for malaria. In 1997, there were 30,054 cases registered in the Kurgan-Tube area, of which 16% were *P. falciparum* tropic malaria. As a result of the antimalaria campaign, conducted with the help of international organisations, in 1998 the official number of malaria cases recorded fell to 19,361. During the campaign, 25 million m<sup>2</sup> of land, including both dwellings and cattle breeding stables, were cleaned and disinfected. In just a year morbidity from malaria halved. The Centre for Control of Tropical Diseases was set up. In 1998, an anti-malaria campaign was supported by the Government of Japan (\$1 million), and in 1999 - 2000 by ECHO (\$1 million).

Low levels of knowledge within the population on the prevention and spread of STDs and HIV remains a problem,

#### National and branch programmes on health protection of population

- National Presidential Programme of Health Care Reforms in the RT for 2000-2010;
- National Programme "Reproductive Health and Reproductive Right for 2000-2003";
- National Programme "Strategy of the RT on Health Care for 2005";
- National Programme on TB Prevention and Control for 1996-2000 ;
- National Programme on Prevention and Control of Iodine Deficiency for 1997-2001;
- National Programme on AIDS Prevention and Control for 1997-1998;
- National programme on Prevention and Control of Tropic Diseases for 1997-2005;
- National Programme on Diarrhoea Control for 1996-2000;
- National Programme on Immunoprophylactics for 1995-2000;
- UNFPA and Government Programme on Reproductive Health and Access to Family Planning;
- Joint Programme of Ministry of Health and UNICEF on Control of Respiratory Infections for 1998-2000;
- Sector Programme on Supporting Breastfeeding for 1998-2005;
- Sector Programme on Reproductive Health and Family Planning.

The Programmes on Nutrition, Control of Smoking and Alcohol are under preparation.

(WHO)

- In the first half of 2000, The Republican HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control Centre, with the financial support of the UN Thematic Group, conducted a number of seminars on the diagnosis and treatment of HIV/AIDS. These were attended by 25 experts from health sector;
- Previously closed regional AIDS centres are again functioning;
- 20,000 copies of four types of booklets with information on AIDS have been published and disseminated;
- In Dushanbe, two centres for the treatment of drug users have been set up. The centres provide anonymous consultations and in 2000 there have been over 140 visits to them. However, due to lack of testing equipment, no examination for HIV infection was provided.  
(The Republican HIV/AIDS Centre)

especially among drug users. HIV/AIDS, along with drugs, present a real threat to future generations if preventive measures are not introduced in time. The age of users is getting younger. Surveys carried out in Dushanbe showed that 22% of school children and 8.2 % of students had tried drugs. At present, there are just 5 persons , registered as HIV positive. They were infected by syringe (2 cases) and by sex (three cases). There are no infected children and there are no cases of full blown AIDS. However, the official data do not reflect the real picture of the spread of HIV and STD in the country. There is no new diagnostic equipment as the equipment in the diagnostic laboratories on AIDS has not



been renewed since they it was established.

The main document on AIDS prevention is the Law "On AIDS Prevention". In 1997, the National Programme was adopted for "HIV/AIDS and STD Prevention and Control". The Thematic Group on AIDS, includes UNAIDS, UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, WHO, UNODCCP and the World Bank. The national strategy plans to organise the workshops, include HIV/AIDS information into the school curricula, print textbooks, train clinics and diagnosis; ensure mass media coverage; organise events on the World UNAIDS Day, conduct survey on HIV/AIDS prevention.

### 13.3 Ecological factors

Industrial pollutants are a serious problem. Recent research has highlighted the impact of the pollution produced by the Tajik Aluminium Plant on the environment and the health of the population in the surrounding area. Pregnant women and children in Tursun-Zade, are 28% more likely to seek medical help than in ecologically safe regions. The incidence of respiratory pathologies, digestive diseases, iodine deficiency, and reproductive health diseases have all increased.

### 13. 4 Reforms in the health care system

In Soviet times the success of the health care system was measured on the basis of the success of the whole system. The number of doctors and beds in outpatient and inpatient medical establishments was set without regard to local levels of need, and there was little emphasis on early diagnosis and prevention.

In 1999, the President adopted a Programme on Health Care Reforms for 2000-2010. The central aim of the reforms is to ensure equal access to health services for the population. The main principles underlying the reform of the health sector are: prioritisation and strengthening of the primary health care services, the distribution of resources according to needs, the provision of information necessary for managing services efficiently, the rationalisation of services, improvement in the quality of services, staff training, strengthening systems of governance, and

Table 6. Health care indicators in 1999

	1999
Number of doctors (thousand)	1,308.6
Per 10,000 population	21.1
Number of nurses (thousand)	3,236.1
Per 10,000 population	52.8
Number of medical establishments	43.3
Number of beds	41,503
Per 10,000 population	68
Number of ambulatory establishments (policlinics)	998
Number of attendances (thousand)	56.7
Per 10,000 population	92.6
Number of medical houses	1,647
Children polyclinics and children departments	282
Mortality per 1,000 people (%)	4.1
	(SSA)

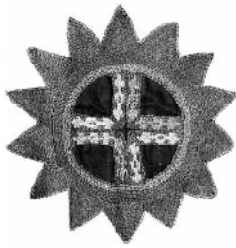
increasing awareness amongst the general population of their personal responsibility for their health.

The programme of reforms in the health sector to 2001 includes a reduction in the number of hospital beds, the strengthening of primary health care services, the education of family doctors, modernisation of medical technologies, adoption of the national programmes, and the introduction of new methods of financing. The number of hospital beds has already been cut from 62,700 in 1993 to 41,000 in 1998. PHC services will be strengthened by reallocation of the budget and training and re-training of family doctors, nurses, teachers and experts. In future they will provide immunisation services and assistance with deliveries at home as well as carrying out

preventive work regarding infectious diseases and other sanitary and epidemiological work. 46 family doctors and 11 nurses have already been trained. 39% of doctors and 35% of secondary level medical personnel are employed in PHC centres. It is expected that in future the share of medical personnel in PHC will exceed that in the hospitals.

#### Recommendations:

- Strengthen primary health care services;
- Improve medical services by high quality training of personnel;
- Strengthen the infrastructure and inputs of medical establishments;
- Ensure continuing access to health care amongst vulnerable groups during the implementation of health care reforms;
- Increase the salaries to medical staff;
- The Ministry of Health should facilitate the implementation of the Programme on Health Care Reforms for 2000-2010, and the Programme on Reproductive Health and Reproductive Rights;
- Activities for strengthening family planning should be promoted;
- Improve the prevention of infectious diseases;
- Involve NGOs in the promotion of healthy life styles;
- Co-operate with the international organisations.



## 14. Low Income and Social Protection

### 14.1 Social protection and deprivation

Social protection enables people with special needs to make use of the new opportunities for personal development, lead a healthy and decent life, and be socially included. However, the existing system of social protection is under pressure because of the growing number of people in need in Tajikistan. The changes accompanying economic and political transition have resulted in the emergence of new groups of vulnerable people including able bodied workers on low salaries i.e. the working poor and households with many children; but the social protection system has yet to be reformed to cover all these new vulnerable groups. Although a formal network of social protection exists, it currently provides only two kinds of benefits - pensions and targeted cash compensation payments. The level of benefits is often inadequate; the value of the average pension is around 35% of the average salary, and the average salary is equivalent to around one-third of the consumption basket. In these conditions, vulnerable people are increasingly reliant on informal help from relatives and the community than on the formal safety net.

Families in Tajikistan are large. In 1999, the average family size was 7 people; in urban areas 5.6, and in rural areas, 7.8. Children under 16 constitute 45% of the total population, whilst elderly people (aged 65 and over) make up 7.4%. Both these groups are over-represented in vulnerable groups. Particular attention should also be paid to street children and orphans. In Dushanbe alone there are more than 1,000 street and homeless children, and in the country as a whole there are 1,342 orphans in boarding schools. It is important to facilitate the social participation of these groups,

particularly to prevent them from becoming involved in a life of crime.

During transition, poverty in Tajikistan has increased; both income poverty and also capability poverty in terms of health, education and personal development. Poverty is multidimensional, and has many faces including disease, low income, rising crime, and deprivation.

According to the TLSS data, there is a regional dimension of poverty in Tajikistan. The probability of being in the poorest fifth of the population is 7 times higher in Badakhshan, and 4-5 times higher in LO and KHO, than in Dushanbe. However, in spite of the high level of poverty in Badakhshan, it accounts for only 7% of the poorest fifth of people in the country. The task of the social protection system is to overcome extreme poverty and deprivation in basic needs, such as clothes, food and shelter.

### 14.2 An objective picture of poverty

In analysis using the TLSS, the WB and the SSA presented several options regarding the choice of what would constitute a poverty line in the RT including: the minimum consumption basket; the international poverty standard of per capita household expenditures of less than \$2.15 PPP per day; the low income countries standard of \$1.075 PPP per day; a per capita household of 10,000 TR and 20,000 TR.

The level of poverty varies depending upon which poverty line is chosen. However, it is fair to say that:

- 96% of people live in households where the

Table 1 Poverty measures in Tajikistan ( individuals)

Poverty line	% poor
(a) Minimal consumption basket 1999 (32,083 TR)	96
(b) \$2.15 PPP a day ( poverty line = 15,111 TR a month)	68
(c) \$1.075 PPP a day ( poverty line = 7,557 TR)	17
(d) State Statistical Agency ' Very Poor' ( poverty line=10,000 TR)	35.5
(e) State Statistical Agency ' Poor' ( poverty line=20,000 TR)	82.8

(Falkingham 2000). Poverty is measured by per capita household expenditures

per capita monthly household expenditure is less than the minimal consumption basket.

- Over two-thirds of households are poor using the international poverty standard of \$2.15 PPP
- 17% of people live in households where the per capita household expenditure is less than \$1.075 PPP a day, or less than 7,566 TR a month.

According to data from the TLSS, the average income from employment amongst the poorest fifth of the population is 6,218 TR, which is a third of that received by the richest fifth - 20,193 TR. Official registered unemployment is 3%. However, if hidden and unregistered unemployment is taken into account, the rate may be as high as 33%.

An alternative indicator of poverty is the prevalence of acute and chronic malnutrition among children in the society. A number of different surveys were carried out in Tajikistan between 1994 and 1999. The nutritional status of children appears to have deteriorated over time with, at the end of the 1990s, nearly half of all Tajik children are experiencing modest stunting.

A high rate of iron and vitamin deficiency is observed among people of reproductive age (15-49) and children under 5, reflecting the lack of good and sound nutrition. The extent of stunting and iodine deficiency among children from 6 to 12 is higher in GBAO than in other regions. The prevalence of stunting is widespread in GBAO (53%), very serious in KHO (39%) and problematic in LO (20%).

### 14.3 Subjective perceptions of poverty

Subjective perceptions of poverty vary. In the TLSS respondents were asked to place themselves on a nine-step ladder bearing in mind that the extremely poor would be at the bottom of the ladder (step 1) and the rich would be at the top (step 9). The majority of households in Tajikistan ranked themselves as being on the bottom half of the ladder, with 11% extremely poor (rung 1), 23% on rung 2 and 31% on rung 3.

When people were asked what they thought poverty meant typical answers included a lack of clothing, shortage of goods, low wages, low pensions, lack of land and cattle, as well as a number of other indicators. Thus, the majority

Table 2 Acute and chronic malnutrition among children aged 5 years.

Survey done by	Year	Modest underweight (%)	Modest stunting (%)
CARE	1994	3.6	30
AKF	1994	2.9	40.4
AKF	1996	5.8	44.6
GAA	1996	10	40.7
GAA	1998	11	46
AKF	1998	6.1	53.8
Action against hunger	1999	6.7	41

(WB)

### New indicators of inequality for Tajikistan

For the first time the Gini coefficient has been calculated for independent Tajikistan. The richest 10% of the population receive an income almost 10 times higher than the poorest 10%, and spend 4 times more than poor.

- The Gini coefficient using expenditures per capita is 0.32;
  - The Gini coefficient using income per capita is 0.47
- In 1989 the Gini coefficient for the republic using household income was estimated as 0.308 and over the last 10 years it has grown to 0.47.

(Jane Falkingham, Poverty in Tajikistan, 2000)

of families in Tajikistan report that they feel poor. The matching of objective and subjective rankings was statistically significant, with the majority of households ranking themselves within one category of their actual objective ranking.

The TLSS also collected other data which provide an indication of poverty. 65% of respondents were either unsatisfied or very unsatisfied with their life at present; 77% of households reported that they were concerned about their ability to provide families with foodstuff in future; and 50% of families had reduced the number of meals that they eat in a day and/or were eating smaller proportions. This may have a damaging long term impact on the nutritional and health status of the population. These findings are disturbing as they indicate high levels of psychological stress.

### 14.4 The structure of income and expenditures

Employment remains the important source of income for the families, but it is no longer a guarantor of well being; it accounts for just a third of the total income of the poor and just over 40% of the income of the rich. The combined income from the sale of foodstuffs and households assets, on average, accounts for a similar share. The majority of households have plots of land and report

that private gardening is important for survival. Poorer households have less area per head; an average of 5.5 sotok per capita,

Table 3. The structure of total income by households in quintiles

	Poor 20%	Rich 20%
Salary	32	42
Sale of crops and foodstuff	16	10
Sale of personal assets	14	15
Sale of commercial things	1	3
Income from renting	1	1
Withdrawal of savings	2	3
Remittances	14	12
Humanitarian aid	8	4
Social subsidy	6	5
Other	7	6
Total	100%	100%

(TLSS)

compared to 11.5 amongst the rich. Remittances are also very important, whilst the role of the state in providing a safety net is very small. Even amongst those households in the bottom fifth of the distribution of expenditure, social transfers only account for eight percent of income

The poorest households devote 79% of their resources to food. Little however is spent in cash terms, and they cover most of their needs for food through subsistence farming and humanitarian aid. Expenditures on other items including clothing, books, durable goods, vacations and marriage-associated expenses, vary strongly between the rich and poor households.

#### 14.5 Coping strategies

The main survival strategy in Tajikistan is access to land and having the ability to produce foodstuffs. According to TLSS data, 79% of households have access to plots of land.

Table 4 Composition of expenditures of poor and rich households

Expenditures	Poorest 20%	Richest 20%
Expenditure for nutrition	48	45
Home made products	21	13
Food aid	10	2
Total for food	79	60
Communal services	4	4
Education	2	3
Health	3	7
Other	12	25
Total	100%	100%
Average expenditures in (TR)	47,450	176,370

(TLSS)

Other coping strategies include humanitarian aid, (23%), reduction of number and quantity of hot meals per day (60%), sale of private assets (25%), borrowing (30%). 7% of the poorest households reported having resorted to begging in the six months prior to the survey.

The structure of nutrition has also changed. 85% of households report that they have shifted to cheaper meals, the consumption of meat and eggs also was reduced. 61% of households had not consumed any eggs in the seven days before the survey, 85% had not eaten confectionery, and 50% had had no meat. In contrast, the consumption of bread had increased. Poor nutrition will impact upon the human potential of future generations.

#### 14.6 Food security

In 1999, households had on average 2.5 meals per day; this was slightly down on 2.6 in 1997. The number of households consuming only one meal a day increased from 10% in 1997 to 13% in 1999. The provision of foodstuff depends on the pace of land reform. In order to submit an application for land and to be granted a certificate, permission is needed from about nine offices, starting with the kolkhoz and ending with the tax inspector. Access to micro credits is at present limited to less than 50,000 households out of a total of 600,000. Information on the legal rights of rural people and their opportunities is very limited and does not reach everyone. Moreover, the continuing erosion of land is a major concern, affecting 30% of all land. At the beginning of 1999 about 1.4 million of beneficiaries were in receipt of food aid.

#### 14.7 The Social Protection Fund

According to data from the Social Protection Fund, 582,101 pensioners receive labour and social pensions, (9% of population). Of the total number of pensioners, 47% (or 262,500) are women.

In 1999, according to the approved budget, the Social Protection Fund was due to receive 26,015 million TR. In reality it actually received 24,186 million TR i.e. 92.9% of expected revenues. The Fund spent 24,440 million TR i.e. 94% of planned expenditures (of which 253.8 million TR was carried forward from the previous year). In 1999, payments of social and labour pensions were 90% of planned, payment of pension to working pensioners was

### The cost of eliminating poverty

- Elimination of severe poverty requires 5.5 % of GDP.
- Elimination of extreme poverty requires 2% of GDP.
- In order to lift everyone to the level of the minimum consumption basket the Government would need to allocate the equivalent of total GDP for this purpose.
- Expenditures for social protection should be raised to 6% of GDP.

According to analysis using data from the TLSS, if in the following 5 years the country experiences economic growth at 5%, the level of absolute poverty (living on less than \$1 PPP a day) will be reduced from 16.3% to 9%, and general poverty (\$2 PPP a day) from 65.4% to 44.9%. If the distribution of income shifts in favour of the poor, poverty reduction will progress at a more rapid speed. (TLSS)

176%, payment of benefits for temporary disability 189%, unemployment 88%, and others 94%. Benefits for childcare were paid to 13,033 women (159% of planned).

According to the Law "On State Social Insurance" and the Resolution of the Majlisi Oli on the order of its implementation, from 1 January 1999 1% of salaries have been allocated to individual personal accounts. In February 1999, the Resolution "On order of introduction of accumulative fees into state social insurance" was adopted.

The Social Protection Fund has started to

of social insurance, based on several sources of finance, including employers, employees and the state.

In 1999, there was 6,000 mln TR available for the support of the vulnerable population through the programme of cash compensation. In 2000 the assignation for social protection is 31,970 mln of TR, which provides all pensioners with at least the minimum pension of 2,000 TR per month.

#### 14.8 Ministry of Social Protection

In 1998, the "Social Protection Reform Concept" was adopted for the period 1999-

Table 5. The value of the average pension relative to average salary

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Average salary	40,449	785	3,116	4,975	8,590	11,609
Average pension	18,032	392	876	1,062	3,019	3,533
Minimum pension	11,776	256	483	483	2,000	2,000
Average pension to average salary	45	50	28	21	35.1	30.4

(SSA)

reform the social security system to move to a funded basis. Since 1999, measures have been implemented in the social insurance system to introduce personal registration and individual accounts, and 1% of salaries are accrued to these accounts. Initially, these reforms have been introduced in Dushanbe and once this has been completed the reforms will be gradually implemented throughout the Republic. These reforms will allow the accrual of pension entitlements to be followed on monthly basis. It will also allow estimation of the income of the population, from which these fees are taken. 250,000 individual accounts will be opened, as well as 8,000 accounts of employers. A funded system of social insurance and a system of voluntary social insurance of the population will be established. The ultimate aim of the reforms is to establish multi-component system

2030, and in 1999 the programme for its realisation commenced. The reforms include setting up the legal basis, making amendments to the current laws "On pension insurance", "On Social Protection of Disabled", "On Veterans", "On State Social Insurance", and developing such programmes, as "Targeted Social Assistance", "Protection of Elderly Population" .

The social protection bodies have expanded their services from the payment of pensions and social benefits to taking care of disabled people, including both their rehabilitation and employment. Particular attention has been given to the improvement of pensions and an increase in the value of the minimum pension. The Ministry of Social Protection, jointly with the Ministry of Labour and Employment, has

The Ministry of Social Protection has 162 units, employing 2,800 people. It is composed of:

- Three oblast affiliations of social protection;
- 69 departments of social protection;
- 29 central and regional Medical Expert Commissions;
- 55 centres for social protection rendered at home, which serve 6,000 single elderly people;
- 6 territorial centres, which serve 2,100 people;
- 1 Research Rehabilitation Institute, where 517 sick pensioners were rehabilitated;
- 1 lyceum boarding house with 217 handicapped children;
- 9 boarding houses with 1,350 people. In 1999, a new boarding house for single pensioners and mentally sick children was opened in Penjikent with 100 places;
- 3 sanatoriums which can house 403 patients;
- 7 private farms on 60 ha of land. The Ministry has set up small ventures on processing agricultural produce, providing jobs for disabled people;
- The Ministry has run advanced courses for an annual audience of 150 people;
- The Ministry publishes the Journal "Hifzi Ichtimoi" (social protection).

carried out an analysis of pensions for those who retired before 1 January 1996. As a result of this documents have been submitted to Government to increase their pensions from 2,500 TR to 6,000 TR.

A provision of early retirement has been added to the law; an increase of pensions for age and disability has been approved, and some privileges have been stipulated for the loss of the breadwinner. The value of the minimum old age pension has been doubled for those who

live in the Murghab region (to 4,000 TR), and has been payable as of January 1999. The "Concept" stipulated that the retirement age for women should be raised to 58 and for men - to 63.

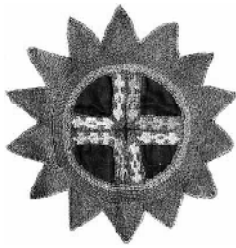
Social activities of elderly people are also expanding. Older people are the creators of material and moral wealth, and conveyors of the experience of human values. Special pages in journals and newspapers were devoted to the elderly people. The President issued a Decree "On improvement the Living Standard of Elderly People ". As part of the implementation of this Decree, 72,341 citizens over 75 were given a one-off payment equivalent to the value of the minimum pension (2,000TR). In total, 144,682 TR was paid from the Presidential Reserve Fund.

The rights of disabled and needy people are also the focus of attention of international organisations. The Government together with WB set up TASIF, which has implemented 106 micro projects aimed at improving the living conditions of the population. The local population implemented the projects. Schools and other objects of infrastructure were repaired. These projects target the poor population.

The efficiency of poverty reduction is determined by the distribution of resources, the growth rate of the economy and stability.

#### **Recommendations:**

- Expand targeted social assistance;
- Develop new social programmes, supported by the international organisations;
- Realise pension insurance, stipulated in the new legislation;
- Improve the social protection of disabled and elderly people;
- Train qualified social workers;
- Involve local communities in the distribution of the humanitarian aid;
- Cover the payment arrears.



## 15. Violence and Crime

Of all the aspects of human security, the most important is protection from physical violence. It is a particularly burning issue for the post-conflict countries, where human life was threatened to a greater degree than elsewhere. The source of alarm among population is the growth of criminality as a threat to life, health, and to the main human rights of freedom and dignity.

### 15.1 Trends in crime in Tajikistan

#### Total crime

There has been a gradual decline in the total number of registered crimes over the past 8 years. This has been achieved by the strengthening of the systems of governance and improved social stability in the RT, brought about by the successful realisation of all the terms of “General

The main sources of criminality in Tajikistan are:

- The impoverishment of a significant part of the population as a result of transition, armed conflict, economic crises, and the lack of account of human factor in the implementation of the reforms;
- Widening inequalities in the income of population, creating new groups of rich and poor;
- Regional disparities, which cause internal migration, and social tensions;
- High level of unemployment;
- Inefficiencies in the existing structures of those institutions responsible for law and order;
- Erosion of traditional moral values and norms as a result of increased social exclusion and disappointment.

Agreement on the Establishment of Peace and National Accord”, and progress in the democratisation of society. This has created an enabling environment for the realisation of key human rights and freedoms.

#### Types of crime

Table 2 presents data on the number and types of crimes registered within Tajikistan. The most common are “heinous” offences. These include murders, attacks on the person, and thefts including the use of weapons, and in 1999 they accounted for nearly two-thirds of all crimes. There has been a shift away from crimes against property towards crimes related to drugs (7% in 1998, increasing to 11% in 1999). Of the total registered crimes in 1999, 59% have been solved.

#### The growth of economic crimes and the illegal trade in drugs

In 1999, there were 1,646 registered crimes linked to the cultivation, use and sale of narcotics. This is an increase of 68% on the previous year. In the period January-June 2000, 985 such crimes had been registered, a growth of 7%, compared to figures for the same period in 1999.

There has also been an alarming growth in the number of economic crimes, including the misuse of public resources, illegal transactions. This trend represents a threat to the stable economic growth, the efficient operation of the financial structures, and income generating branches of the economy.

Table 1 Trends in the number of crimes

1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1998	1999	2000 I half year
214,116	21,188	11,647	11,991	10,673	13,161	14,413	7,882
(SSA)							

Table 2 Total number of registered crimes, by type of crime, 1998-1999

	1998	1999
Registered crimes, total of which:	13,161	14,413
Heinous offence	5,487	9,451
Intended crimes and assaults	491	357
Intended heinous corporal offence	204	181
Rape and personal assault	61	60
Thefts, of which:		
property	1,255	1,629
robberies	248	268
mugging	748	706
swindling	368	458
Hooliganism	451	435
Stealing of weapon	41	12
Consumption, preservation, and trafficking of drug	979	1,646
Bribery	40	50
Kidnapping	41	27
Theft of the state property, by misuse of position.	822	847

(SSA)

Terrorism, drug and arms trafficking and other forms of crime are a serious problem for society and the state. In a globalising world these types have no national borders and represent a global threat for the countries in the region and world communities. The growth of criminality impacts on the prestige of the country, slows down foreign investments, economic reforms and foreign trade. Thus, the Government has identified the control of crime as a priority for national policy.

### **Violence against women and the feminisation of criminality**

The most serious threats are those that endanger the security of women. In Tajikistan, as a result of tradition and the socio-economic situation, women often do not enjoy equal security and social status with men. The loss of men during the civil war, combined with labour migration to neighbouring countries, has resulted in the fact that many households are become female-headed. Poverty has forced many women to engage in heavy and low paid agricultural work or to participate in retail trade in the markets and other individual income generating activities. In these circumstances women, as less protected members of society, become the victims of violence. From year to year, levels of rape and personal assault remain high. According to SSA, the number of such registered cases in 1998 was 61, in 1999 - 60, and in first half of 2000 - 29,

an increase of 26% for the same period in the previous year.

Over the recent past there has been a trend towards the feminisation of criminality. Although the majority of crimes are still committed by men (see Table 3 below), there has been a growth in the number of women involved in crime.

### **The regional distribution of crime**

A growth in the number of registered crimes between 1998 and 1999 was noted in Badakhshan (a rise of 21%), in Dushanbe (15%) and in RRS (18%).

### **Official statistics and latent criminality**

Official statistics do not reflect fully the real level of criminal activity in the country. Many victims of crime do not report them to the public order keeping bodies, because of the fear of violence. Lack of transparency in the context of low

Table 3 Characteristics of those who committed crime

1999	number of people
People committed crime	8,464
men	7,555
women	929
14-15	115
16-17	372
18-24	2,192
25-29	1,671
30 and over	4,134
workers	1,005
farmers	499
Civil servants	833
Higher and secondary special education	1,793
Secondary education	5,390

(SSA)

levels of crime solution has resulted in the weakening of the trust of the population in the ability of the authorities to combat crime.

Table 4 Number of crimes by regions and their solution (%)

	1998	%	1999	%
RT	13,161	51.1	14,413	59
GBAO	484	71.5	587	76
KHO	3,046	54.2	3,045	70
LO	3,779	67.5	3,980	76
Dushanbe	3,793	39.9	4,376	52.1
RRS	1,533	36.3	1,810	44.5

(SSA)

Alongside this, the current official statistical data collection on crime is dated and poor. Not all the types of criminal activity, stipulated in the new 1998 Criminal code, are included within the statistical database.

## 15.2 National legislation and measures to combat criminal activity

New legislation have recently been adopted with the aim of strengthening the legal basis for combating criminal activity in Tajikistan. They are: the 1998 Criminal Code of the RT, the Law "On Weapons", and the National Programme "On the Intensified Crime Control in 1996 -1997". To implement this programme, local authorities and the armed forces have worked out several concrete actions. The following Committees have been formed: the Committee for the Guarding the National Borders, the Commission for Drug Control and the Coordination Crime Control Council. The aim of the Programme is to strengthen the rule of law and order by mobilising public order bodies, ministries and agencies, local government, public organisations, labour collectives, and citizens in combating crime.

The President has issued Decrees, which ban carrying the weapons in public places, and discontinue the contractual military service in the Armed Forces of the RT. The enforcement of these Decrees has resulted in the improved stabilisation, and contributed to the strengthening of law and security.

## Recommendations:

A number of legislative, management and economic reformes would enhance the efficient control of crimes.

### Legislation:

- Review the existing legislation in the light of recent changes in the political and economic life of the country, to facilitate democratisation and market economy;
- Take measures to improve the efficiency of the judicial system as a tool to protect the dignity of the citizens. Such measures include ensuring the true independence of the courts, and increasing the protection of staff from threats of violence.

### Management:

- Include new statistical indicators, introduced by the new Criminal Code of the RT;
- Develop an index of civil security to facilitate regular monitoring of the state of personal security;
- Report regularly on the prevalence of criminal activity and the state of personal security, in order to highlight priority areas for future policy intervention;
- Continue practice of meetings of the Government with law and order protecting officials, and with those bodies responsible for maintaining the borders in Tajikistan and the armed forces;
- Development of an efficient state programme of legal education and training of citizens. This should be done in collaboration with the mass media and NGOs;
- Improve the procedures of staff recruitment to crease the solution of the crimes;
- Set up Ombudsman Institution on Human Rights, with wide ranging powers and guaranteed independence.
- Establish efficient mechanisms to combat corruption in the public sector.

### Economic sector:

- Improve social protection of the officials employed in the law protection bodies, ensure adequate salaries and provide modern technical equipment.

### **15.3 The problem of narcotics**

The illegal drug trafficking of is a growing business in Tajikistan, and constitutes one of the most destructive threats to the security of individuals, society and the state. In 1992, there were 262 registered drug crimes; by 1999 this figure had increased to 1,646. Official statistics underestimate the true extent of activity in this area and there is no exact data on the number of victims of drug business. A particular cause for alarm is that along with an increase in the use of soft drugs, such as hemp, there is also evidence of increased use and trade in heroine, brought into Tajikistan from Afghanistan.

In recent years the "drugs industry" has grown from an illegal trade carried out by individuals to the organised group business, that damage the international prestige of the country and hamper attempts to attract inward investment necessary for rapid economic growth.

#### **Drug trafficking**

Tajikistan continues to be a key conduit for illicit drug trafficking in the region due to the economic instability in the country. Approximately 60% of all Afghan drugs entering Tajikistan, are trafficked through the relatively flat terrain of the Afghan-Tajik border in southern Tajikistan. The remaining 40% are trafficked via the mountainous GBAO. Having entered Tajikistan, the Afghan narcotics are then transported onwards to other CIS countries and Europe. Tajikistan's geographic location and difficult economic situation make it an extremely attractive transit point for drug smugglers.

By the official data, in 1999, 91 drug couriers who were citizens of other countries within the CIS were arrested in Tajikistan. Of particular cause for concern is the growth in involvement of women and youth. In recent years 181 female drug couriers have been arrested along with 586 young people. During the same period, 911 Tajik citizens were arrested elsewhere in the CIS.

#### **Illicit cultivation**

According to the information gathered by a survey conducted in 1999 by the ODCCP less poppy cultivation was reported than in previous years due to the gradual tightening of government controls over the poppy cultivating areas in the north of the country. The greater availability of illicit drugs entering the country from Afghanistan has also contributed to the decline in local cultivation.

However, with the strengthening of customs controls with other countries, drug dealers have started to distribute the drugs within Tajikistan itself rather than run the risk of trying to export it. This constitutes a major threat for future generations.

#### **Growth of addiction**

Many factors, including geopolitical, social and economic factors, have contributed to the spread of drugs. Relatively easy access to drugs in Tajikistan has resulted in a dramatic growth in the number of users. According to official data, in 1997 there were 1,991 registered addicts. This figure grew to 2,458 people in 1998 and in 1999 the figure doubled.

The level of drug use depends on the place of residence and is higher in urban areas. In rural areas, where moral and traditional norms are still strong, the number of addicts is also low. In 1998, by the official data 7.2 people per 10 thousand population were addicted, of which 5.2 consumed heroin. In 1999, these figures had increased to 12.6 per 10,000 and 11.2. Also of concern is rise in the number of young people who are registered addicts. In the past drugs were primarily consumed by adults. However, recently more and more young people are becoming involved, either because of curiosity or false self realisation. Drug use is not only a medical and legal problem, but is also a social one. Drugs are consumed by both the rich and the poor. About 67% of the registered addicted are

unemployed, and these people are often lured into the drug trafficking by the drug sellers.

### **International co-operation and national action on the control of drugs**

Tajikistan is a signatory of the International Conventions on the Control of Drugs of 1961, 1971 and 1988. UNODCCP programme has been launched in the country. On 27 April 1999, the President of the RT and the Director General of ODCCP signed a protocol on the establishment of a Tajik Drug Control Agency on the basis of the existing state commission. The Drug Control Agency was established by Presidential Decree on 1 June 1999. Its functions are: law enforcement, combating illegal drug trafficking, prevention and treatment of addiction to drug, full-scale investigation capacity in drug-related crimes.

The ODCCP Regional Office established a Sub-Office in Tajikistan in June 1999 with the specific task of implementing activities related to the creation of the Tajik Drug Control Agency and expanding programmes activities in the country. It is currently implementing three projects within the framework of its coordinated strategy aimed at strengthening drug control capacity in the country. The strategy applied by the ODCCP in Tajikistan is geared towards a "Security Belt", approach elaborated in order to stem drug trafficking from Afghanistan into neighbouring Central Asian Republics.

The main objective of the ODCCP strategic approach in Tajikistan is to consolidate a specialised national drug control entity, strengthen cooperation with other operational drug control agencies. The three projects are geared towards a) strengthening cooperation with those countries along the trafficking routes from Afghanistan to CIS and Europe through Tajikistan; b) strengthening cooperation with law enforcement agencies of Western countries which distribute expertise in the field of combating drug trafficking. The support provided by the International

Community, through ODCCP, has generated a virtuous circle in the country with a positive influence in the whole region. Some of these effects are: drug interception, drug prevention, regional cooperation.

Nevertheless, despite these efforts there is more work to be done. By blocking one channel for the transportation of the drugs, there emerge new routes and methods, including concealing drugs within the body. As of today, more than 80% of drug couriers swallow the drugs and hide them in their bodies in order to cross national borders. From the beginning of this year there have been 9 fatal cases.

Given the present situation Tajikistan is unable to solve the complex internal problems linked with the drugs industry on its own. The trend to globalisation has opened up new opportunities for this type of criminal activity. The reduction of barriers to international trade, and the transit of passengers and freight through the borders, has created a favourable environment for the drug business. The high level of profitability of this business has pushed the narcotics traders to take any steps, including armed attack, to keep their business. The main difficulties in the planning and implementation of the measures on drug control are: lack of co-ordinated work on the collection, processing and exchange of information, lack of modern equipment for drug detection, and training. Staff receive low salaries, have poor security and face few incentives all of which have damaged motivation.

But the main constraint regarding the solution of this problem in Tajikistan is the continuing crisis in neighbouring Afghanistan. Without solving, this problem will remain difficult to achieve significant results in the fight against drugs.

### **Recommendations:**

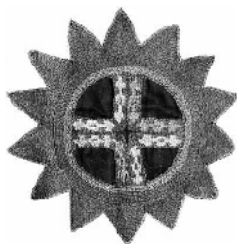
To tackle the problem of drug use and

The Drug Control Agency has also competence in the field of prevention of drug abuse through the promotion of awareness raising campaigns and the coordination of treatment and rehabilitation policies. Currently, the Drug Control Agency has been active mainly in awareness raising. The following activities have been implemented so far:

- Several TV and radio programmes on prevention of drug abuse;
- Several reports in the local press on drug abuse;
- Meetings with students of secondary schools on the risk posed by drug addiction;
- Round table meetings on "the Problem of Drug Addiction among the Youth. Ways of Solution";
- Jointly with ODCCP, a drawing competition among children of Dushanbe under the motto "Children against Drugs in Tajikistan". The best drawings have been selected and distributed to all schools in Dushanbe;
- Several sport and music shows under the motto "sport against drugs".

illegal trafficking it is important to develop a national plan of action. This plan should:

- Co-ordinate the efforts of all the countries in the region and international organisations illegal drug trafficking control, and establish a regional centre for drug control;
- Strengthen the Tajik-Afghan border;
- Provide professional training for staff and modern equipment for the law and order- keeping bodies;
- Attract scientific and technical potential to detect the cultivation of narcotic containing plants and eliminate them;
- Improve preventive measures amongst youth and expand job opportunities;
- Use mass media to disseminate messages on healthy life style;
- Establish, in collaboration with NGOs, a network of rehabilitation centres for drug addicts.



## 16. Pollution and Environmental Issues

Sustainable human development assumes the rational use of natural resources without damaging the opportunities of future generations. Biodiversity and the preservation of natural resources are necessary if future generations are to continue to enjoy a decent life.

By virtue of its natural resources, Tajikistan holds a unique place within Central Asia. It is the main regulator of the climate and water resources in the region. Tajikistan is a high mountainous country. The mountain terrain contributes to the formation of various diverse climatic zones and ecosystems. Within the territory of Tajikistan, there are six natural zones, from dry subtropics to everlasting snow. These zones include: flat 400-500 m, foothills up to 1,000 m, low mountains between 2,000-3,000 m, middle high mountains up to 3,000 - 4,000 m, high mountains 4,000- 6,000 m, and mountainous tundra 6,500-7,400 m. Inside these natural zones there are valleys, located within and locked in by mountains with both favourable and unfavourable natural conditions. People live in five of these valleys.

Tajikistan is characterised by long periods of sunshine throughout the year, with an annual average of 2500-3000 hours. The abundance of sunshine creates a favourable environment for the cultivation of agricultural products, and the development of tourism and recreation. On the other hand, the specific natural environment of Tajikistan also requires particular attention in order to avoid pressure on the

environment by population, and by the industrial, energy and transport infrastructure.

### 16.1 Air resources

The particular meteorological conditions in the Tajikistan cause low flow of air. The poor circulation of air within the mountainous valleys contributes to concentration of polluted air within them. In 2000, the level of air pollution increased by 200% compared to the previous year, and was mainly caused by low rainfall. This was aggravated by technological factors. The main sources of air pollution continue to be industrial enterprises and transport, accounting for 80% of air pollution.

Air pollution is concentrated in the Vakhsh and Hissar valleys. The main industrial polluters, as the Aluminium Plant, the Yavan electrochemical plant, and the Vakhsh nitrogen plant are located there. These industries are currently working at only 30-40% of their capacity. In 1999, these plants released 31.95 thousand tons of polluted particles into the atmosphere. This was 5 kg per capita less than in 1998.

The volume of pollution from transport increased in 1999, largely as a result of poor fuel, and now accounts for 60% of the total volume. There was an increase of 500% in the gas emissions from cars with diesel engines, compared to fuel engines. Traffic inspectors need to take greater measures in order to reduce the impact of gas emissions on environment. Over recent years, garbage and leaves has been burnt in many

Table 1 Emissions of harmful particles in 1999

	RT	Badakhshan	KHO	LO	RRS	Dushanbe
Area thousand square km	143.1	63.7	24.5	26.1	28.4	0.14
Emissions (thousand tons.)	31.9	0	4.4	2.1	24.8	1.5
Particles kg per 1 sq. km	226.9	0	89.7	172.3	859.1	10,000.0
Population thousand	6,187.8	210	2,178.1	1,902.7	1,384.3	512.7
Particles kg per capita	17.8	0	9	18.9	32.10	22.8

(Ministry of Environment and SSA)

towns and villages. The smoke from this contains harmful components of heavy metals. The rise in air pollution from all these sources is one of the main causes of the rise in the incidence of respiratory diseases in Tajikistan.

## 16.2 Water resources

The main sources of water supply in the RT are surface and underground waters. The glaciers of Tajikistan contain about 400 million cubic meters of high quality fresh water. There are about 1,000 rivers. The total average annual water flow in the republic is estimated by the Ministry of Environment to be 80.22 million cubic metres of which 80.5% is good for water supply. However, there have always been constraints in the distribution of these rich water resources and recently the water supply system has begun to deteriorate. Thus, only about 55% of population have access to relatively clean water, and 45% use water from open sources.

The brain drain of qualified staff, lack of materials for the purification stations and non-repair of equipment has resulted in the fact that in 1999 more than 80% of the water supply network system did not meet sanitation norms. In the Republic in 1999, 62.5% of tests did not meet the standard laid down for microbiological indicators. The water supply system is now in deep crisis. Lack of finance is the main factor behind the non-implementation of the plan for the construction and rehabilitation of



purification stations.

In the sewage system in 1999 there were 480 damaged mains, of which 460 were in LO alone. Open water sources have become polluted where waste is not purified and processed. This has caused the outbreak of infectious diseases. The pollution of water resources with municipal and industrial waste is alarming, demanding prompt action. More than 95% of wastewater is released into open channels. It is estimated by national experts that bacteria from everyday waste in the rivers of Tajikistan is 40-45 times higher than in the rivers of industrially developed countries. This is emerging as the most serious problem in the country. Industrial waste flows that exceed norms on ammonium nitrogen and weighted particles are also a problem. In 1998, the emission of waste into the rivers of Vakhsh was 8%, into Kofarnihan about 60%, in Syr Darya 23%. The total pollution of water resources is now more than 6 cub.m.per capita.

## 16.3 Land resources

Tajikistan is an arid country, and it has the least arable land in the Central Asia region. Land resources in RT within the administrative borders constitute 14,254.5 thousand hectares, of which agriculture accounts for 4,570.7 thousand ha, land reserves - 4,354.6 thousand ha, agricultural enterprises -560.2 thousand ha, human settlements, industry, transport, and defence - 192.7 thousand ha, and water-32.1 thousand ha.



Table 2 Water pipe supply network in 1999 (mlm.m<sup>-3</sup>)

	Total volume of water in the network	Passed through purification stations	% to the total volume in the network	Released to the consumers	Of which population	Loss, leakage and not expected use
RT	415.5	122.1	29.4	305.2	128.3	110.2

(Ministry of Environment)

The degradation of land that has taken place over the last 20-25 years is now becoming a serious problem. It reduces the area available for agriculture and decreases the efficiency of agriculture. In 1999 the volume of arable land decreased by 35.5 thousand ha. Over the next 20-25 years it is expected that the per capita land area fit for agricultural cropping will halve, and the area of desertification and land degradation will increase by 1.5 times. The arable area will be reduced also because of the population growth. Thus, in 1970 there was 0.15 ha of arable land per capita, at present this indicator is 0.12 ha, but at the present rate of population growth in 2010 there will be just 0.08 ha per capita.

As a result of erosion the most fertile layer of soil is washed away or blown away by wind. The soil quality deteriorates and its fertility falls by anything from 20% to 100%. Irrigated land is often subject to erosion due to out-dated irrigation techniques that result in the formation of ravines. For example, the Yavan valley is covered by 350 ravines, up to 25 m in depth and 100 m in length.

At present 105 thousand ha, or 15% of irrigated arable land, suffers from salination. The experts estimated, that annually the loss of cotton alone from salination is more than 60-70 thousands tons, which is equivalent to the cultivation of almost 26 thousand ha of new land. Considerable losses were inflicted by the civil war; secondary salination intensified with the destruction of the irrigation system. In 1999, the WB extended credit to rehabilitate the irrigation system and this should contribute to the ecological improvement of the environment. It should be noted that irrigated land is used more

efficiently in dehkan farms than in the public sector.

The quality of land has also deteriorated due to monoculture cropping and the overuse of chemicals. This has impacted upon the quality of foodstuffs, such as milk, butter, vegetables, and meat. At present the share of land under cotton is 52%. In order to improve fertility, the land should be farmed with a variety of crops over the year.

Forests cover 3% of the land in all the altitudes and include a total of 200 different types of tree. Forests annually yield 15 thousand cubic metres of timber. Preliminary data for the last 7 years indicates that the area covered by forests has reduced by 120-130 thousand ha - to put this into perspective this is equivalent to an area ten times the size of the natural reserve "Tigrovaya Balka". Mass cutting of the forests due to a lack of fuel and other energy resources has resulted in the depletion of Tajikistan's natural resources. In the pastures of Pamir, 734.3 thousand ha of land has been eroded because of the mass cutting of plants and bushes by the population for heating.

Major damage has also been caused by forest fires. In 1999, there were 6 forests fires. Poverty has stimulated demand for wood and other traditional types of fuel. In 1999, agricultural enterprises and farms planted trees on 832 ha of land. According to national scholars over the next 20 years demand for energy in Tajikistan will increase by 35-40%. The growth of the consumption of this form of energy will cause greater air pollution and contribute to the loss of life for many people.

#### 16.4 Accumulation of waste

The Ministry of Environment estimates that in 1999, more than 30 million tons of solid waste, 23 billion cubic meters of liquid waste (including industrial) and more than 210 million tons of various types of mining waste were accumulated in Tajikistan. There are more than 400 types of industrial waste officially listed. The location and preservation of solid waste is of particular concern. More than 4 million tons of solid industrial waste are produced annually,

Table 3 Land resources of RT in 1999 ( thous. ha)

Arable land	739.9
Of which irrigated	512.4
Long lasting planting	102.9
Deposits	26.1
Straw collection	23.5
Pastures	3,692.6
Private gardening	173.2
Of which irrigated	107.7
forests	326.3
Other ( inc mountains)	8,686.9
Total area in RT, of which	14,254.5

(Ministry of Environment)

polluting the air, land and water. The first steps in recycling waste have been carried out at the Aluminium Plant and the Vakhsh nitrogen plant. However, the system is not fully organised yet, and the potential is not been used efficiently. In general recycling technology remains to be developed within Tajikistan. As a result the large majority of industrial and domestic waste is removed, potential secondary raw materials are lost, and the environment is damaged.

### **16.5 Natural calamities**

The total number of emergency situations increased by 33.5% in 1999 compared to 1998. The increase was caused by technological reasons. According to the data of the SSA, in 1999, 2,994 emergencies were registered, of which 146 were natural and 2,848 man-made. As a result of natural calamities, 22,257 people suffered, of which 630 died, 1,774 were injured, and 4,708 were temporary resettled. Floods and falls affected 12,940 people and caused the deaths of 37 people. In 1999 damage caused by natural calamities was estimated at 208.9 billion TR.

Dangerous natural phenomena are often aggravated by man's behaviour, such as inappropriate irrigation and settling and irrigating landslide areas. In 1999, the Ministry of Emergency Situations was set up to assist in minimising the consequences of natural calamities.

### **16.6 Ecological factors of sustainable human development**

Ecological crises impact upon the living conditions of the rural population. They suffer from floods, poor harvests and infectious diseases resulting from pollution and the irrational use of water for irrigation. Three-quarters of the total population of Tajikistan live in rural areas, and 81.5% of the poor. 70% of the rural population are dependent upon the crops grown on their own private plots for their nutrition. Soil degradation, morbidity caused by air pollution, contaminated water and malnutrition, - these are all problems confronting rural population.

There are ecological problems that are caused not by the growth of wealth, but by

deepening poverty. As a result of poverty and lack of alternative options, the rural population has started to cultivate land on slopes with 30-40 degrees of decline. This has contributed to land erosion, landslides and other ecological phenomena. It is estimated that in 10-15 years, almost 50% of population will be at risk of ecological crises, as half of the rural area is in the foothill zone, and the rural population is increasingly cultivating these lands.

Poverty and ecological damage are the two sides of the same coin, rolling downwards. The degradation of natural resources in agriculture, which has taken place over a long time, deepens poverty today, which slows down the reconstruction of agricultural resources. In order to survive today the rural population is using inappropriate land and farming practices. Thus, in Farhar, Moskovskiy, Vose and other southern regions, as a result of the cultivation of land without proper drainage systems over the last 5-6 years, many human settlements have been flooded. The increase in the level of underground water has caused many people to leave their houses. This in turn will cause further degradation of the agro-system and will lead to the further impoverishment of the poor population in Tajikistan.

Ecological problems - water contamination, air pollution, land degradation - impact upon the life of the population. These factors are the causes of morbidity within the population. They endanger not only health, but also well-being and even survival. Currently, more than 40% of population do not have access to safe water. As a result of land degradation, the volume of agricultural land in the Republic is decreasing. According to national experts, each fifth ha of the irrigated land is damaged by salination, and each fourth ha is eroded.

### **16.7 Biodiversity**

Biodiversity is very important for people. It is one of the main factors in preserving the opportunity for food supply for the population. Medicines extracted from the diversity of flora and fauna in Tajikistan also save people's lives. The extinction of various types of animals and plants with the

aim to make profits threatens the continuity of biodiversity of animals and plants in the Republic.

With the aim of improving the use of natural resources in RT, the maintenance of land, forests, water resources, air resources, biodiversity, and rare types of flora and fauna, as well as fostering health improvement, the Government has adopted the State Ecological Programme for 1998-2008. This document defines the main policies for stable development, the rational use of natural resources, and the restoration of destroyed ecological space. The ecological programme is aimed at all ministries, agencies, enterprises and organisations, which have dealing with all forms of property. The Ministry of Environment controls 7,012 entities and sanctioned the spending of 9,391.1 thousand TR in 1999. The Ministry also applied to the economic court for reimbursement in the amount of 21,409.8 thousand TR for environmental damage.

The international community contributes to many practical measures concerned with improvement of the environment. At the present time Tajikistan has ratified a number of UN Conventions on environmental protection, including:

- UN Convention “ Biodiversity”;
- Convention Framework on “Climate Change”;
- Vienna Convention on "Protection of Ozone Layer”;
- Montreal Protocol on substances, depleting ozone layer, and amendment to it (London);
- UN Convention on “Combating desertification”.



### **Flora and fauna in Tajikistan**

In Tajikistan, there are more than 400 types of medical plants, 115 types of colouring plants, 40 types of fruits and cherries, 365 types of birds, 49 types of terra and water types, 80 types of mammals. Many of them are of global significance, with 200 types enlisted in the Red Data Book according to data from the Ministry of Environment.

Working groups have been organised to implement the above mentioned UN Conventions. UNDP is providing assistance to the Ministry of Environment to develop a sustainable mechanism to protect the environment. The capacity of the Ministry has been strengthened by training, and a number of projects aimed at protecting the environment have been implemented.

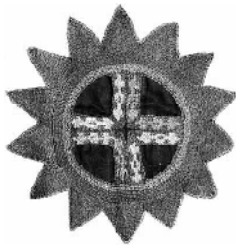
Tajikistan has a favourable natural climate for development and the improvement of the quality of life for the population. Its significant natural potential, within several climatic zones, will allow the Republic to develop the necessary branches of industry, agriculture and recreational services.

### **Recommendations:**

- The Ministries of Environment and Irrigation should develop a set of measures and incentives to ensure efficient and rational use of water resources;
- Diverse cropping should be encouraged to improve land fertility. Ministries of Environment and Agriculture should disseminate information to new farms on the rational use of land;
- Investments are needed to renovate the drainage system and introduce modern irrigation technology;
- All ministries and agencies should develop efficient measures to improve the living environment for the population;
- The cutting of the trees and bushes should be banned to avoid deforestation and desertification;
- Committee for Forestry should contribute to the natural reforestation.

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## Supplementary Tables

### Human Development Index

	Regions	Year	
Life expectancy at birth	Tajikistan average	1998	68.4
	Dushanbe	1998	66.9
	LO	1998	67.1
	KHO	1998	68.8
	Gorno-Badakhshan	1998	69.7
	RRS	1998	70.7
Adult literacy rate (% , 15 and over)		1999	97.7
Literacy index		1999	0.97
Term of education		1999	16
Knowledge index		1999	0.88
GNP per capita (US\$, PPP\$)		1999	290
GDP per capita (US\$, PPP\$)		1997	330
Adjusted GDP per capita (US\$)		1999	178.5
Human Development Index		1999	0.601

Sources: State Statistical Agency and WB

### Profile of Human Development

	Regions	Year	
Maternal mortality rate (per 100,000 live births)	Tajikistan average	1998	87.8
	Dushanbe	1998	119.4
	LO	1998	56.2
	KHO	1998	114.8
	Gorno-Badakhshan	1998	122.9
	RRS	1998	46.2
Population per doctor	Tajikistan average	1999	469.8
	Dushanbe	1999	142.2
	LO	1999	416.3
	KHO	1999	918.1
	Gorno-Badakhshan	1999	513.7
	RRS	1999	901.6
Scientists and technicians ( per 1000 people)	Tajikistan	1999	0.6
Number of enrolled for all the levels (% age 6-23)	Tajikistan average	1999	68.8
	Dushanbe	1999	86.4
	LO	1999	62.1
	KHO	1999	58.6
	Gorno-Badakhshan	1999	67.5
	RRS	1999	55.9
Total education expenditure (% of public expenses)		1999	11.8
Total health expenditure (% of public expenses)		1999	6.0
Tertiary full time gross enrolment ratio (thousand)		1999	17.3
Female (%) of totally enrolled in tertiary education		1999	25.1
Newspapers ( copies per 100 people a day)		1999	50
Televisions ( per 100 families)		1999	32

Sources: State Statistical Agency and WHO

### Profile of Human Distress

	Year	
Unemployment rate (%) total	1999	3.1
Youth (15-24) unemployment rate	1999	60.8
Female wages (as % of male wages)	1999	100
Average monthly rate of inflation (%)	1999	2.4
Injuries from road accidents (per 100,000 people)	1999	28.5
Intentional homicides (per 100,000 people)	1999	5.9
Reported rapes (per 100,000 women age 15-59)	1999	3.8
Sulphur and nitrogen emissions (kg NO <sub>2</sub> , SO <sub>2</sub> per capita)	1999	0.4

Source: State Statistical Agency

### Female-Male Gaps (female as a percentage of males)

	Year	
Life expectancy	1999	108.7
Population	2000	98.8
Years of schooling	1999	100
Secondary enrolment	1999	92.0
Upper-secondary graduates	1999	67.0
University full-time equivalent enrolment	1999	34.3
Natural and applied science enrolment	1999	27.6
Labour force	1999	97.2
Registered unemployment	1999	113.8
Wages	1999	100

Sources: State Statistical Agency

### Status of Women

	Regions	Year	
Life expectancy at birth (years)	Tajikistan average	1998	71.3
	Dushanbe	1998	71.1
	LO	1998	69.8
	KHO	1998	71.0
	Gorno-Badakhshan	1998	73.1
	RRS	1998	74.0
Average age at first marriage (years)	Tajikistan average	1998	20.8
	Dushanbe	1998	22.3
	LO	1998	19.8
	KHO	1998	21.4
	Gorno-Badakhshan	1998	22.8
	RRS	1998	21.2
Maternal mortality rate (per 100,000 births)	Tajikistan average	1998	87.8
Secondary net enrolment ratio (%) (special)		1999	53.0
Upper secondary graduates (% of females)		1999	39.9
Tertiary full-time gross enrolment ratio (%)		1999	26.5
Tertiary natural and science enrolment (% female)		1999	15.7
Women in labour force (% of total)	Tajikistan average	1999	49.3
	Dushanbe	1999	46.7
	LO	1999	49.6
	KHO	1999	50.1
	Gorno-Badakhshan	1999	48.1
	RRS	1999	48.7
Administrators and managers (% of female)		1999	18.1
Parliament (% of seats occupied by women)		1999	13

Sources: State Statistical Agency and WB

## Health profile

	Regions	Year	
Deaths from circulatory diseases (% of total)		1999	42.5
Death from malignant cancer (% of total)	Tajikistan average	1999	6.3
Public expenditures on health (% of total)		1999	5.9
Public expenditures on health (% of GDP)		1999	1.0
Private expenditures on health (%) estimate		1999	50.0

Sources: State Statistical Agency

## Demographic Profile

	Regions	Year	
Estimated population ( millions)	Tajikistan	1970	2.9
		1999	6.1
		2000	6.1
	Dushanbe	1970	0.4
		1999	0.5
		2000	0.6
	RRS	1970	0.6
		1999	1.3
		2000	1.3
	LO	1970	0.9
		1999	1.9
		2000	1.9
Annual population growth rate (%)	KHO	1970	0.9
		1999	2.1
		2000	2.2
	Gorno-Badakhshan	1970	0.1
		1999	0.2
		2000	0.2
	Tajikistan 1989	1995	1.9
		1999	1.2
	Dushanbe 1989	1995	1.5
		1999	0.5
		1999	0.5
	RRS 1989	1995	2.4
		1999	1.3
		1999	1.3
	LO 1989	1995	2.0
		1999	1.4
		1999	1.4
	KHO 1989	1995	2.5
		1999	1.8
		1999	1.8
Total fertility rate	Gorno-Badakhshan	1995	2.7
		1999	1.5
		1999	1.5
	Tajikistan average	1999	3.7
		1999	29.0
		1999	29.0
	Dushanbe	1999	7.1
		1999	5.9
		1999	5.9
	RRS	1999	7.4
		1999	5.4
		1999	5.4
Proportion of the population aged 60 and over	KHO	1999	6.6
		1999	6.6
		1999	6.6
	Gorno-Badakhshan	1999	5.1
		1999	5.1
		1999	5.1
Life expectancy at age 60 ( years)	Male	1998	68.4
		1999	15.1
		1999	15.1
	Female	1999	18.0
		1999	18.0

Sources: State Statistical Agency and WHO

### Educational Profile

	Regions	Year	
Enrolment ratio for all levels (% age 6-23)	Tajikistan average	1999	68.8
	Dushanbe	1999	86.4
	RRS	1999	55.9
	LO	1999	62.1
	KHO	1999	58.6
	Gorno-Badakhshan	1999	67.5
Completed secondary school (thousands)		1999	50.3
Tertiary full-time enrolment ratio (thousands)		1999	17.3
Tertiary natural, applied science enrolment (% of total)		1999	15.7
Total education expenditures (% of public expenditures)		1999	11.8
Public expenditures on education (as % of GDP)		1999	2.1

Sources: State Statistical Agency

### Human Capital Formation

	Year	
Mean years of schooling (age 25+years), total	1999	17
Female	1999	17
Male	1999	17
Scientists (per 1000 people)	1999	0.6
R and D scientists (per 10,000 people)	1999	2.0
Expenditure on research and development (% of GDP)	1999	0.1
Upper secondary graduates (5 of population of age)	1999	0.9
Tertiary graduates (% of population of age)	1999	2.2
Science graduates (% of the total graduates)	1999	19.6

Sources: State Statistical Agency

### Employment

	Regions	Year	
Labour force (% of total population)	Tajikistan average	1999	49.4
	Dushanbe	1999	59.7
	RRS	1999	48.3
	LO	1999	50.7
	KHO	1999	47.8
	Gorno-Badakhshan	1999	51.2
Earnings per employee annual growth rate (%)		1999	-1.5
Earnings disparity (upper-lower half ratio)		1999	15 ð
Percentage of labour force in trade unions		1999	65
Weekly hours of work (per person in manufacturing)		1999	41
Expenditure on labour safety programmes (% of GDP)		1999	0.1

Sources: State Statistical Agency

## Unemployment

	Year	
Unemployment persons (thousands)	1999	49.7
Unemployment rate (% of registered unemployment)	1999	3.1
Female (thousands)	1999	26.3
Youth (aged 15-24, thousands)	1999	31.5
% of unemployed who are in receipt of benefits	1999	76.4
% of long term unemployment (more than 6 months)	1999	14.5
% of long term unemployment (more than 12 months)	1999	14.0

Sources: State Statistical Agency

## Natural Resources Balance Sheet

	Regions	Year	
Land area (thousand of km <sup>2</sup> )	Tajikistan average	1999	143.1
	Dushanbe	1999	0.1
	RRS	1999	28.4
	LO	1999	25.2
	KHO	1999	24.5
	Gorno-Badakhshan	1999	64.1
Population density (people per km <sup>2</sup> )	Tajikistan average	1999	42.8
	Dushanbe	1999	4390
	RRS	1999	46.6
	LO	1999	71.6
	KHO	1999	87.4
	Gorno-Badakhshan	1999	3.2
Arable land and permanent cropland (% of land area)		1999	9.0
Permanent grass lands (as % of land area)		1999	0.1
Forests and wooded land (as % of land area)		1999	3.0
Irrigated land (as % of land area)		1999	88.0
Renewable water resources per capita (1000 m <sup>3</sup> a year)		1999	90.5
Annual freshwater withdrawals (% of total)		1999	9.0
m <sup>3</sup> per capita annual		1999	155.2

Sources: State Statistical Agency

## National Income Accounts

	Year	
Total GDP (US billion)	1999	1.1
Agricultural production ( as % of GDP)	1999	16.8
Industrial production ( as % of GDP)	1999	19.1
Services ( as % of GDP)	1999	40.7
Consumption ( as % of GDP)	1999	65.4
Private	1999	55.4
Government	1999	8.6
Gross domestic investments ( as % of GDP)	1999	9.1
Gross domestic savings ( as % of GDP)	1999	0.1
Tax revenue ( as % of GDP)	1999	11.5
Central Government expenditures ( as % of GDP)	1999	3.2
Exports ( as % of GDP)	1999	63.3
Imports ( as % of GDP)	1999	61.6

Sources: State Statistical Agency

### Trends in Economic Performance

	Year	
Total GDP (US billion)	1999	1.1
Annual growth rate (%)	1999	3.7
GDP per capita annual (US\$)	1999	178.5
Average monthly rate of inflation (%)	1999	2.4
Exports as % of GDP (% of annual growth rate)	1999	15.0
Tax revenue as % of GDP (% of annual growth rate)	1999	15.9
Direct taxes (as % of total taxes)	1999	74.5
Overall budget surplus deficit (as % of GDP)	1999	1.0

Sources: State Statistical Agency

### Weakening Social Fabric

	Year	
Prisoners (per 100,000 people)	1999	141,4
Juveniles (as % of total prisoners)	1999	5,7
Intentional homicides (per 100,000 people)	1999	5.9
Reported rapes (per 100,000 women age 15-69)	1999	3.8
Drug crimes (per 100,000 people)	1999	27.2
Divorced (as % of marriages contracted)	1999	10.6
Birth outside marriages (%)	1999	6,2
Suicides by men (per 100,000)	1998	2.2

Sources: State Statistical Agency

### Wealth, Poverty and Social Investments

	Year	
Real GDP per capita (US\$)	1999	178.5
GNP per capita (US\$, PPP \$)	1999	290
Share of industrial GDP (%)	1999	19.1
Social security expenditure (as % of GDP)	1999	3.9
Total education expenditure (% of public expenditures)	1999	11.8
Total health expenditure (% of public expenditures)	1999	6.0

Sources: State Statistical Agency and WB

### Communication Profile

	Year	
Radios (per 100 people)	1999	4.1
Televisions (per 100 people)	1999	4.5
Annual theatre attendance (thousands)	1999	524
Annual museum attendance (per 1000 people)	1999	312
Registered library users (thousands)	1999	798.5
Newspapers (copies per 100 people a day)	1999	50
Book titles published (per 100,000 people)	1999	3.1
Letters posted and wires (per capita)	1999	0.8
Telephones (per 100 people)	1999	2.7
International telephone calls (# of calls per capita)	1999	0.8
Motor vehicle (per 100 families)	1999	2.3
Motorcycles and bikes (per 100 people)	1999	3.5
E-mail users (thousands)	1999	7000

Sources: State Statistical Agency and CADA

### Energy Consumption

	Year	
Total consumption (bln kwt/h)	1999	15.6
Consumption per capita (kwt/h)	1999	2575

Sources: State Statistical Agency

### Urbanisation

	Regions	Year	
Urban population (% of total)	Tajikistan average	1999	26.5
	Dushanbe	1999	100
	RRS	1999	12.4
	LO	1999	26.6
	KHO	1999	17.2
	Gorno-Badakhshan	1999	13.6
Urban population annual growth (%)		1999	-7
Population in the biggest cities (%)	Dushanbe	1999	34.6
	Khojand	1999	9.1
	Kulab	1999	4.8
Major cities with higher population density	Dushanbe	1999	4390
	Khojand	1999	703
	Kulab	1999	430

Sources: State Statistical Agency

### Pollution

	Year	
Sulphur and nitrogen emissions ( kg per capita)	1999	0.4
Pesticides consumption ( kg per ha)	1999	0.3
Air pollution ( kg per capita)	1999	4.3
Water contamination (m <sup>3</sup> per capita)	1999	5.7
Population served municipal waste services (%)	1998	50

Sources: State Statistical Agency