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REPUBLIC OF AUSTRIA  
FEDERAL OFFICE FOR IMMIGRATION AND ASYLUM

# Country Fact Sheet Of the Austrian Country of Origin Information Department



## Tajikistan

**Vienna, May 2014**

### *Remark*

Produced by the International Organization for Migration (IOM), this country fact sheet (CFS) is part of the “production of country fact sheets on the economic and socioeconomic situation of selected countries of origin” project, which was funded by the Austrian Federal Office for Immigration and Asylum (BFA) and the European Refugee Fund (EFF).

### *Anmerkungen*

Die Informationen aus dem Country Fact Sheet (Mai 2014) wurden von IOM im Zuge des Projektes der Staatendokumentation „Länderinformationen zur sozioökonomischen Lage in ausgewählten Herkunftsländern“ recherchiert. Dieses Projekt wurde im Rahmen des Europäischen Flüchtlingsfonds und des Bundesamtes für Fremdenwesen und Asyl finanziert.

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## COUNTRY FACT SHEET

# THE REPUBLIC OF TAJIKISTAN

May 2014



## 1. INTRODUCTION

This Country Fact Sheet (CFS) was prepared by the International Organization for Migration Mission in Tajikistan (IOM) within the framework of the project "Production of Country Fact Sheets on the Economic and Socioeconomic Situation of Selected Countries of Origin" funded by the Austrian Federal Office for Aliens Affairs and Asylum (*Bundesamt für Fremdenwesen und Asyl*).

The general aim of the project and this document is to provide neutral, objective, duly researched and up-to-date information on countries of origin, with a focus on aspects that are important for potential returnees in order to make a well-informed decision regarding their assisted voluntary return and reintegration from Austria, and secondarily to provide an assessment of individual returnees' reintegration perspectives in the country of origin, in this case, Tajikistan. The results of the CFS should support the asylum, migration and return counselling organizations by contributing to a knowledge base, which will assist clients with up-to-date country-specific information.

The Tajikistan CFS contains six chapters. Chapter 1 provides the aims and intended use of the fact sheet, brief description of the main chapters, and also the methodology and sources used during this process. Chapter 2 provides general information about the country's geography, population and institutional structure. Chapter 3 covers the country's underlying

economy facets specifically gross-domestic product, importance agriculture, industry and services sectors; labour force, unemployment and inflation rates; investment, public budget and debt; industrial production growth rate; current account; net bilateral aid flows; reserves of foreign exchange and gold; and direct foreign investment. Chapter 4 outlines the infrastructure issues related to the banking system; telecommunications; postal services; transportation; energy and electricity; water supply, and agriculture. Chapter 5 concerns socioeconomic situation in the country and provides an overview of social, housing, education, employment, and health-care systems. Chapter 6 presents the data of post-return treatment of migrants; return of unaccompanied minors; chapter 7 discusses vulnerable groups. The final chapter contains the contact lists of information provided in original language (Russian).

The CFS provides up-to-date and complete information, however, in some instances distortions may exist as a result of rapidly altering data specifically in the context of economy, infrastructure, and socioeconomic situation requiring regular update.

### **1.1. Methodology and Sources**

The development of the document began by identifying original and secondary data, which was obtained from documents of various institutions. The original sources include statistical data sourced from publications of institutions like the Agency on Statistics under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan, and relevant ministries. In addition, secondary academic materials published in 2012-2013, as well as mass media articles were used. The core information for the fact sheet was primarily obtained through study reports and published statistics available in Tajik and Russian languages, as well as information available on various websites. All citations of sources are included within the text.

## 2. GENERAL INFORMATION

### 2.1. Geography

According to the National Human Development Report of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) published in 2012, "Tajikistan occupies an area of 143,100 km<sup>2</sup> and borders the Kyrgyz Republic to the north (with a border of 630 km), China to the east (430 km), Afghanistan to the south (1,030 km) and Uzbekistan to the north and west (910 km). The prevailing relief is mountainous. Tajikistan's mountain systems occupy 93 per cent of the country's area, with almost half of the territory located at an elevation of over 3,000 m. With 7,495 m Peak Ismoil Somoni is the countries' highest mountain. Located in an active seismic zone running through the south-east of Central Asia, Tajikistan is prone to earthquakes. One third of the country's territory in the west is foothills and steppes (semidry grassy plains). Lowlands are located in the river valleys in the south-west and far north, where a strip of the territory runs to the Fergana Valley. Because of the highlands, only 5 per cent of Tajikistan's territory is arable lands".<sup>1</sup>

### 2.2. Climate

The UNDP report states that the "climate in the country is continental, with wide diurnal and seasonal variations in temperature and humidity. The complicated structure and high amplitude of the relief form unique local climate types with large temperature differences. The amount of precipitation depends on the position and exposure of mountain slopes and air mass circulation. The average annual precipitation in the hot deserts of Southern Tajikistan and cold alpine deserts of the Eastern Pamirs ranges between 70 and 160 mm, while in Central Tajikistan precipitation may exceed 2,000 mm. In valleys and plains (up to 500 m), the average July temperature ranges between 23°C in the north and 30°C in the south, and the average January temperature ranges between -10°C in the north and 3°C in the south. Precipitation amounts to 150-300 mm per year".<sup>2</sup>

### 2.3. Natural Resources

As the State Committee on Investments and State Property Management of the Republic of Tajikistan notes, "Tajikistan's natural resources are very diverse. Many deposits of poly-chemical, rare and precious metals are discovered in Tajikistan including: zinc, lead, molybdenum, wolfram, copper, gold, silver, antimony, mercury, fluor spars, black tin, uranium, bismuth, iron, manganese, sodium chloride, magnesium and other metals with export value. Among Tajikistan's famous deposits are the following: gold mines of Penjikent and Shughnan; silver mines of Kanimansuri Kalon (Big Kanimansur); the antimony mine of Anzob; marble mines in Vanj, Penjikent, Darvaz, Shakhristan; and other fields. There are deposits of coal, gas, oil, marble and other raw materials that can be used in construction industry. Tajikistan is the leader in Central Asia in coal reserves. The total geological stock of coal is estimated to be 4 billion tons. Eighty per cent of this coal is of "close-burning" type."<sup>3</sup>

According to the Ministry of Melioration and Water Resources of the Republic of Tajikistan, "with very scarce oil and gas resources and difficulties for the industrial development of coal

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<sup>1</sup> National Human Development Report, *Tajikistan: Poverty in the Context of Climate Change*, 2012, [http://hdr.undp.org/sites/default/files/tajikistan\\_2013.pdf](http://hdr.undp.org/sites/default/files/tajikistan_2013.pdf) accessed on 06/05/2014.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> State Committee on Investments and State Property Management of the Republic of Tajikistan, *Tajikistan: Investment Opportunities*, 2010, [http://amcu.gki.tj/eng/images/stories/Tajikistan\\_Investment\\_opportunities.pdf](http://amcu.gki.tj/eng/images/stories/Tajikistan_Investment_opportunities.pdf) accessed on 03/10/2013.

deposits, Tajikistan has enormous, inexhaustible reserves of hydropower resources (527 billion kWh per year) ranking 8th in the world.”<sup>4</sup>

## 2.4. Land Distribution

Throughout the Soviet time, the land distribution process was rigidly controlled by the state. After receiving independence, Tajikistan has attempted to end this practice when only members of state and collective farms were granted plots. The Land Code of 1996 was the beginning of a systematic land reform, which provided every household with a permanent and heritable use right to a 0.15-0.40 hectare household plot. Since then, a total of 75,000 hectares have been allocated for garden plots. The share of household plots in agricultural land accordingly went up from 1 to 6 per cent. The rest of the agricultural land is now divided between *dehkan farms*<sup>5</sup> (60%), the state (25%), and various agricultural entities and municipalities (4-5%).<sup>6</sup>

Land reform in Tajikistan receives a fair amount of attention in President's speeches and address to the government and the nation. In practice, however, the local population often considers land distribution problems stemming from corruption as a serious obstacle. Corruption mainly occurs at the local level when heads of district *hukumats*<sup>7</sup> and chiefs of *dehkan farms* make any important distribution of the land without consulting the district-level Land Committee, which is responsible for establishing the size of the land share.

According to the Prosecutor's Office of the Vakhsh district, despite the fact that the Government of Tajikistan has allocated 413 hectares of land for distribution among people, an inspection revealed that the former head of the district (responsible for the implementation of land distribution) allocated only 226 hectares for 1,726 people. As a result, the land distribution decision which was carried out was in violation of the laws of Tajikistan. Additionally, there were different cases of corruption, for instance, the chief of a *dehkan farm* was arrested for having demanded from people USD 2,000 for land allocation.<sup>8</sup> Similar observations and inspections have been made in other parts of the country.

## 2.5. Land Use

Tajikistan is one of the most land-deprived countries in Central Asia. Only 32.2 per cent of its territory comprises agricultural lands, over 80.8 per cent of which are seasonal pastures and just 16 per cent is cropland. Per capita irrigable land is less than 0,116 hectares, including 0.08 hectares of irrigated cropland. Land suitable for farming comprises 8 per cent of the country's territory. Though farm land areas increased at the expense of rain-fed pastures by 169,700 hectares (in 1990-2002), cropland area decreased at the same time by 9 per cent. The per capita decrease of cropland emanates not only from population growth, but also from land acquisition under civil and industrial construction, and because of the land cessation from agricultural rotation. Despite a trend in deurbanization from 1991 through

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<sup>4</sup> Ministry of Melioration and Water Resources of the Republic of Tajikistan, National Review, *Towards a "Green" Economy in Tajikistan*, 2012, <http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/1021tajikistan.pdf> accessed on 03/10/2013.

<sup>5</sup> The *dehkan farms* are run by private persons at individual, family or collective levels.

<sup>6</sup> USAID Country Profile: Property Rights and Resource Governance, Tajikistan, undated, [http://usaidlandtenure.net/sites/default/files/country-profiles/full-reports/USAID\\_Land\\_Tenure\\_Tajikistan\\_Profile.pdf](http://usaidlandtenure.net/sites/default/files/country-profiles/full-reports/USAID_Land_Tenure_Tajikistan_Profile.pdf) accessed on 28/03/2014.

<sup>7</sup> Local district government or administration.

<sup>8</sup> Prokuratura Vahshskogo rayona vyavila fakty nezakonnogo respredeleniya zemli, 21 February 2012, <http://www.news.tj/ru/news/prokuratura-vakhshskogo-raiona-vyavila-fakty-nezakonnogo-raspredeleniya-zemli> accessed on 28/03/2014.

2002, the land areas occupied by cities increased 38 per cent and by rural settlements 124 per cent. The total land area of Tajikistan as of 2005 was 14,255,397 hectares.<sup>9</sup>

## 2.6. Population

The total population of Tajikistan was estimated at 6,129,000 people in January 2000. By now, the total population of the country has reached 7,987,400 people.<sup>10</sup> High fertility rates of 2.8 children born per woman<sup>11</sup> have led to a population growth that increased from less than 36 per cent in 1989 to about 64 per cent in 2013. The population of Tajikistan is overwhelmingly rural, with just over 34 per cent living in urban areas.<sup>12</sup>

38 per cent of the population is aged 0-14 years, 57 per cent are between 15 and 64, and only 5 per cent are above 65 years of age in 2013.<sup>13</sup>

The male life expectancy in Tajikistan is 71.9 years, compared to 74.7 years for females.<sup>14</sup> According to the 2013 estimates, the total median age in Tajikistan equalled 23.2 years, of which 22.7 years are male and 23.7 years are female.<sup>15</sup> The latest value for age dependency ratio (% of working-age population) in Tajikistan was 63.80 as of 2012.<sup>16</sup> The death rate in Tajikistan in 2011 was estimated at 4.3<sup>17</sup> deaths per 1,000 people while the birth rate has remained high at 24.7<sup>18</sup> per 1,000 in 2011. Tajikistan has a 99.9 per cent literacy rate among population aged 15 years and older.<sup>19</sup>

The male literacy rate is 99.6 per cent compared to female literacy of 99.4 per cent.<sup>20</sup>

## 2.7. Ethnic Minorities

Of Tajikistan's five main ethnic groups, Tajiks accounted for 84.3 per cent of the population in 2010. They were followed by Uzbeks (12.2%), the Kyrgyz (0.8%), Russians (0.5%), Tatars (0.1%) and others making up 2.2 per cent of the population.<sup>21</sup>

<sup>9</sup> International Organization for Migration (IOM), Mission in the Republic of Tajikistan, Sharq Research Institute, *Environmental Degradation, Migration, Internal Displacement, and Rural Vulnerabilities in Tajikistan*, 2012, <http://www.iom.tj/pubs/eco-eng.pdf> accessed on 04/10/2013.

<sup>10</sup> Agency on Statistics under President of the Republic of Tajikistan, *The Population of the Republic of Tajikistan as of 1 January 2013*, [http://www.stat.tj/en/img/36a268df28cfe07c2098351a71bb2773\\_1372996986.pdf](http://www.stat.tj/en/img/36a268df28cfe07c2098351a71bb2773_1372996986.pdf) accessed on 09/10/2013.

<sup>11</sup> CIA World Factbook, last updated on 14 April 2014, <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/tj.html> accessed on 09/10/2013.

<sup>12</sup> Agency on Statistics under President of the Republic of Tajikistan, *The Population of the Republic of Tajikistan as of January 1, 2013*, [http://www.stat.tj/en/img/36a268df28cfe07c2098351a71bb2773\\_1372996986.pdf](http://www.stat.tj/en/img/36a268df28cfe07c2098351a71bb2773_1372996986.pdf) accessed on 09/10/2013.

<sup>13</sup> Ibid.

<sup>14</sup> Agency on Statistics under President of the Republic of Tajikistan, *Demographic Yearbook of the Republic of Tajikistan*, 2012, [http://www.stat.tj/en/img/01c0a666738323bc1c3512243cfbf74e\\_1367165200.pdf](http://www.stat.tj/en/img/01c0a666738323bc1c3512243cfbf74e_1367165200.pdf) accessed on 09/10/2013.

<sup>15</sup> CIA World Factbook, last updated on 14 April 2014, <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/fields/2177.html> accessed on 09/10/2013.

<sup>16</sup> The World Bank, <http://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP.POP.DPND> accessed on 17/10/2013.

<sup>17</sup> Agency on Statistics under President of the Republic of Tajikistan, *Demographic Yearbook of the Republic of Tajikistan*, 2012, [http://www.stat.tj/en/img/01c0a666738323bc1c3512243cfbf74e\\_1367165200.pdf](http://www.stat.tj/en/img/01c0a666738323bc1c3512243cfbf74e_1367165200.pdf) accessed on 09/10/2013.

<sup>18</sup> Ibid.

<sup>19</sup> UNICEF Statistics, last updated on 31 December 2013, [http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/Tajikistan\\_statistics.html](http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/Tajikistan_statistics.html) accessed on 14/05/2014.

<sup>20</sup> UNESCO Institute for Statistics, undated, [http://stats.uis.unesco.org/unesco/TableViewer/document.aspx?ReportId=367&IF\\_Language=eng&BR\\_Region=4\\_0505](http://stats.uis.unesco.org/unesco/TableViewer/document.aspx?ReportId=367&IF_Language=eng&BR_Region=4_0505) accessed on 17/10/2013.

<sup>21</sup> Agency on Statistics under President of the Republic of Tajikistan, *Ethnic Composition and Language Skills, Citizenship of the Republic of Tajikistan*, Vol. 3, 2012, [http://www.stat.tj/en/img/526b8592e834fcaaccec26a22965ea2b\\_1355502192.pdf](http://www.stat.tj/en/img/526b8592e834fcaaccec26a22965ea2b_1355502192.pdf) accessed on 04/11/2013.

There are no ethnic frictions between different ethnic groups living in Tajikistan. However, some negative relations can be observed in Tajik enclaves which are located in neighbouring countries, Uzbekistan and the Kyrgyz Republic. There are three Tajik enclaves in the region: Sarvak in Uzbekistan, Vorukh and Kayragach in the Kyrgyz Republic. The negative relations between ethnic groups in the Fergana Valley are an echo of the national territorial delimitation which took place in the 1920s under the Soviet rule. In Soviet times such administrative divisions were purely theoretical since the borders between Soviet republics remained open. However, after the collapse of the USSR the borders of the new independent states were closed, and the governments of Central Asian republics did not reach an agreement on the status of the enclaves.<sup>22</sup>

Recently, in January 2014, a conflict escalated between the Tajik and Kyrgyz side in the Vorukh enclave. The conflict started when the Kyrgyz side initiated a construction of a road which was not sanctioned by the government of Tajikistan. These political tensions were reflected among the residents of the Vorukh region, and resulted in low-scale violence between Tajik and Kyrgyz citizens.<sup>23</sup>

## 2.8. Religions

Tajiks are predominantly Muslims. Some 85 per cent of the population is Sunni Muslim, while 5 per cent is Shia (the Ismaili branch). About 10 per cent of the population practices other beliefs.

There are no religious tensions in Tajikistan. The civil war (1992-1997) had its roots in regional divisions and the vacuum of power after the collapse of the USSR, and not in religious or ethnic differences.

## 2.9. Languages

Tajik is a language related to Persian and is also spoken in north-western Afghanistan. In 2010, an estimated 84 per cent of the population spoke Tajik; 12 per cent spoke Uzbek; 1 per cent spoke Kyrgyz; and 0.4 per cent Russian.<sup>24</sup>

The Constitution from 1994 states that the official language is Tajik.<sup>25</sup> According to the bill on language from 2011, Russian gained the status of a language of inter-ethnic communication (previously, this status has been revoked in 2009, for two years).<sup>26</sup>

## 2.10. National Holidays in Tajikistan

New Year's Day	Wednesday, 1 January 2014
International Women's Day	Saturday, 8 March 2014
Navruz (Persian New Year)	Friday, 21 March 2014
Labour Day	Thursday, 1 May 2014
Victory Day	Friday, 9 May 2014
National Reconciliation Day	Friday, 27 June 2014
Eid al-Fitr (Ramazon)	Monday, 28 July 2014 <sup>27</sup>

<sup>22</sup> Gabdulhakov R. Geographical Enclaves of the Fergana Valley, <http://www.osce-academy.net/en/research/policy-briefs/> accessed on 26/03/2014.

<sup>23</sup> Ibid. page 4.

<sup>24</sup> Ibid. page 12.

<sup>25</sup> Constitution of the Republic of Tajikistan, Presidential Powers, Section 1, Article 2, <http://www.president.tj/ru/taxonomy/term/5/112> accessed on 26/03/2014.

<sup>26</sup> Lenta.RU, information agency, V Tadjikistane russkomu yazyku vernuli prezjniy status, 9 June 2011, <http://lenta.ru/news/2011/06/09/russian> accessed on 26/03/2014.

Independence Day  
Eid Al-Adha (Kurban)  
Constitution Day

Tuesday, 9 September 2014  
Saturday, 4 October 2014<sup>28</sup>  
Thursday, 6 November 2014

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<sup>27</sup> To be confirmed in accordance with the Government's decision.

<sup>28</sup> To be confirmed in accordance with the Government's decision.

### 3. INSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURE

#### 3.1. General Information

The dissolution of the Soviet Union resulted in sporadic armed conflicts and civil wars in some of the ex-Soviet republics including Tajikistan. In February 1990, thousands of protesters took to the streets in Dushanbe and launched a rebellion against the ex-Soviet nomenclature and power concentrated among the northern Khujandi elite, which has governed the country since 1929. The elite resisted democratization and Islamisation of the country and the loss of their acquired privileges.

In September 1992, an alliance of Gharimi and Pamiri regional elites attempted to seize the power but failed due to the support of Uzbekistan and the Russian Federation provided to the opposite faction. A bloody internal conflict escalated chaos and violence in Tajikistan killing at least 40,000 and causing up to 800,000 refugees fleeing the civil war by the end of 1992. In 1993, the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) approved a peacekeeping mission to Tajikistan led by Russian military forces.

Since a cease-fire took hold in September 1994, a U.N Mission of Observers was established to monitor the adherence of the government and the United Tajik Opposition (UTO) to a cease of hostilities between the two.

The Republic of Tajikistan adopted a new constitution on 6 November 1994. The constitution declares the Republic of Tajikistan a unitary state with a bicameral parliament.

In December 1996, a National Reconciliation Commission (NRC) was formed, which led to the signing of a peace accord between President Rakhmon and opposition leader Abdullo Nuri in 1997, ending six years of civil war in Tajikistan.<sup>29</sup>

The Republic of Tajikistan is administratively divided into four divisions: the autonomous province of Gorno-Badakhshan, Khatlon, Sughd and the Region of Republican Subordination. The territory of Tajikistan is comprised of 66 districts<sup>30</sup>, 57 small towns<sup>31</sup>, 369 rural councils<sup>32</sup>, 17 cities<sup>33</sup> including Dushanbe as the capital of the state.

#### 3.2. The President

Tajikistan has a president as the head of the state and chairman of the government, who since the referendum in 2003 serves a 7-year term. At the end of 2013, Emomali Rakhmon was re-elected for the fourth term (1992-1994 as the head of state, 1994-1999 as the president, 1999-2006, 2006-2013, 2013).

##### 3.2.1. Last Presidential Elections

The Central Commission for Elections and Referenda (CCER) of the Republic of Tajikistan, in total, established 68 electoral districts with over 3,000 polling sites in Tajikistan and 61 sites

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<sup>29</sup> CRS Report for Congress, *Central Asia's Security: Issues and Implications for U.S. Interests*, updated 7 January 2005, <http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/row/RL30294.pdf> accessed on 12/11/2013.

<sup>30</sup> Agency on Statistics under President of the Republic of Tajikistan, *Regions of Tajikistan*, 2012, [http://www.stat.tj/en/img/2336a7fa84c06406cfe3606ccfe6d58a\\_1356711960.pdf](http://www.stat.tj/en/img/2336a7fa84c06406cfe3606ccfe6d58a_1356711960.pdf) accessed on 10/11/2013.

<sup>31</sup> Ibid, page 15.

<sup>32</sup> Ibid, page 15.

<sup>33</sup> Ibid, page 15.

abroad. Up to 3,787,703 voters participated in the presidential election held on 6 November 2013.<sup>34</sup>

Some 3,157,253 (84.23%)<sup>35</sup> of the 4,201,156 eligible Tajik voters cast ballots to choose the present president Emomalii Rahmon from the People's Democratic Party of Tajikistan. Communist Ismoil Talbakov had won 184,653 of the 3,787,703 votes cast. This represented 4.93 per cent of the vote. Agrarian Party candidate Tolibbek Buhoriev won 168,313 votes and thus the third place (4.49%). Candidate from the Economic Reforms Party Olimdzhon Boboev came fourth (143,231 votes or 3.82%), Socialist Party candidate Abduhalim Gafforov came fifth (55,516 votes or 1.48%) and Democratic Party representative Saidzhaffar Ismonov won 39,334 votes to take sixth place (1.05%).<sup>36</sup>

The inaugural ceremony took place on 16 November 2013, ten days after Rahmon was formally elected by the people for the next seven-year term.

According to the Election Observation Mission conducted by OSCE/ODHIR "The election in Tajikistan took place peacefully, but restrictive candidate registration requirements resulted in a lack of genuine choice and meaningful pluralism. The campaign was formalistic and limited voters' opportunity to make an informed decision. Extensive positive state-media coverage of the official activities of the incumbent President provided him with a significant advantage. In a positive step, the CCER took measures to enhance the transparency and efficiency of the administration of elections. Significant shortcomings were noted on election day, including widespread proxy voting, group voting, and indications of ballot box stuffing".<sup>37</sup>

### 3.3. Legislative

The parliament is known as the Majlisi Oli (Supreme Assembly).<sup>38</sup>

The lower chamber is called the Majlisi Namoyandagon and has 63 seats. Members of Majlisi Namoyandagon serve five-year terms, they are elected by voters.

The upper chamber is the Majlisi Milli, which is composed of 33 members serving for five years: 25 are elected by local majlis<sup>39</sup> and eight are appointed by the president.

#### 3.3.1. Last Parliamentary Elections

The last parliamentary elections took place in 2010. The People's Democratic Party of Tajikistan (president's party) received 71 per cent of votes, the Islamic Renaissance Party of Tajikistan 8.20 per cent, the Communist Party of Tajikistan 20 per cent, the Agrarian Party of Tajikistan 5.11 per cent and the Party of Economic Reforms of Tajikistan 5.06 per cent. The turnout amounted to 90.84 per cent.<sup>40</sup>

<sup>34</sup> TSYK obyavil okonchatelniye itogi vyborov prezidenta, 14 November 2013, <http://www.news.tj/ru/node/176838> accessed on 11/11/2013.

<sup>35</sup> Tsentribirkom Tadjikistana obnarodoval okonchatelniye itogi vyborov prezidenta, 14 November 2013, <http://www.vesta.tj/government/21411-centribirkom-tadjikistana-obnarodoval-okonchatelniye-itogi-vyborov-prezidenta.html> accessed on 11/11/2013.

<sup>36</sup> Ibid.

<sup>37</sup> OSCE/ODHIR Election Observation Mission Final Report, 5 February 2014, <http://www.osce.org/odihr/110986> page 3, accessed on 07/03/2014.

<sup>38</sup> Majlisi Oli of the Republic of Tajikistan, <http://parlament.tj/> accessed on 27/03/2014.

<sup>39</sup> Local representative assemblies in Tajikistan's four administrative divisions and in the cities subordinated directly to central government and elected locally by the people.

<sup>40</sup> Inter-Parliamentary Union, undated: [http://www.ipu.org/parline-e/reports/2309\\_E.htm](http://www.ipu.org/parline-e/reports/2309_E.htm) accessed on 27/03/2014.

### 3.4. The Government

The president appoints the prime minister, who is the head of the government.<sup>41</sup> The Government of Tajikistan consists of 14 ministries and 26 state committees. It is responsible for providing effective management of the economy, social and cultural fields, and the execution of laws, decisions of the parliament, decrees as well as of orders of the President of the Republic of Tajikistan.<sup>42</sup>

### 3.5. Judiciary

The 1994 constitution established a court system consisting of four levels of courts: 1) the Constitutional, Supreme, Supreme Economic and Military Courts, 2) courts of Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Oblast (GBAO) and Dushanbe, 3) city and district courts, 4) the Economic Courts of GBAO, Dushanbe, as well as city and district economic courts.

The Constitutional Court comprised of seven people determines the organization and operating procedures of courts.

The Supreme Court engages in judicial control over garrisons' military courts, cities and districts courts in respect to civil, criminal and administrative cases.

The Supreme Economic Court deals with economic disputes resolution, judicial control over and shares judicial practice with economic courts.

The Military Court administers justice in all military and law enforcement structures ensuring the rights and freedoms of military men, conscripts are protected. The president appoints judges of the Military Court, cities and districts as well as the Economic Court upon the recommendation of the Council of Justice.<sup>43</sup>

The courts in GBAO and Dushanbe exercise control over the execution of judicial practice in city and district courts and also analyse judicial statistics.

The city and district courts review civil, criminal and administrative cases and can appeal to the Constitutional Court on the constitutionality of an applied law in a particular case.

The Economic Courts of GBAO, regional economic courts and courts of Dushanbe review all economic cases with the exception of cases that are under the competence of the Supreme Economic Court. They also review judicial acts, examine and generalize judicial practice.

### 3.6. International Actors Present in the Country

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<sup>41</sup> Constitution of the Republic of Tajikistan, Presidential Powers, Section 4, Article 69, <http://www.president.tj/ru/taxonomy/term/5/112> accessed on 10/11/2013.

<sup>42</sup> Constitution of the Republic of Tajikistan, Government, Section 5, Article 73, <http://www.president.tj/ru/taxonomy/term/5/112> accessed on 10/11/2013.

<sup>43</sup> A state structure under the President of Tajikistan to coordinate legal reforms and increase the authority of courts.

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## 4. ECONOMY

### 4.1. General information

Since 2000, the national currency of Tajikistan is the *somoni*. The *somoni* is subdivided into 100 *diram*. *Somoni* are issued in banknotes under the following denominations: 1, 3, 5, 10, 20, 50, 100, 200, and 500. *Diram* are solely issued in coins. The international abbreviation is TJS.

The Tajik *somoni* (TJS) exchange rates to major global currencies, including the Euro (EUR) and the US Dollar (USD), are shown for the previous ten years in the charts below.<sup>44</sup>

TJS to USD (2005 – 2014)

Date	USD	TJS
Jan 2005	1	3.0370
Jan 2006	1	3.1995
Jan 2007	1	3.4265
Jan 2008	1	3.4649
Jan 2009	1	3.4556
Jan 2010	1	4.3714
Jan 2011	1	4.4029
Jan 2012	1	4.7585
Jan 2013	1	4.7639
Jan 2014	1	4.9036

TJS to EUR (2005 – 2014)

Date	EUR	TJS
Jan 2005	1	4.1315
Jan 2006	1	3.7837
Jan 2007	1	4.5740
Jan 2008	1	5.1007
Jan 2009	1	4.8682
Jan 2010	1	6.3102
Jan 2011	1	5.9480
Jan 2012	1	6.1565
Jan 2013	1	6.3014
Jan 2014	1	6.9378

At a forum in November 2013, IMF resident representative in Tajikistan Aidyn Bibolov noted that among banks in Tajikistan, “the rate of dollarization is high in Tajikistan; some 70 per cent of deposits are kept in foreign currency. Dollarization not only weakens the monetary policy transmission mechanism, it also makes the countries of the region vulnerable to the currency exchange rate fluctuations.”

<sup>44</sup> National Bank of Tajikistan, 21 May 2014, <http://www.nbt.tj/en/kurs/?c=4&id=28&lang=en> accessed on 21/05/2014.

## Inflation, consumer prices (annual, %)<sup>45</sup>

2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
16.3%	7.14%	7.09%	10.01%	13.14%	20.47%	6.44%	6.41%	12.43%	5.83%	7.72% <sup>46</sup>

Sources: World Bank 2014 and Economy Watch 2013.

## Investment (gross fixed, %)<sup>47</sup>

2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
22%	19.4%	19.9%	12.4%	12%	21.8%	20.9%	18.1%	16.6%

Source: CIA World Fact Book 2013.

## 4.2. Gross Domestic Product

Gross Domestic Product (GDP)<sup>48</sup>, Purchasing Power Parity (PPP) (current USD): 18,908,368,881.60

GDP per capita, PPP (current international USD): USD 2,360.89

GDP per capita (current USD): USD 953.01

## GDP real growth rate (annual %)<sup>49</sup>

Year	GDP growth rate (annual %)
2010	6.5%
2011	7.4%
2012	7.5%
2013	7.4% <sup>50</sup>

Source: World Bank 2013.

## GDP - composition by sector (2012 est.)

Agriculture	26% <sup>51</sup>
Industry	26% <sup>52</sup>
Services	48% <sup>53</sup>

Source: World Bank 2013.

<sup>45</sup> The World Bank, Global Development Indicators, based on International Monetary Fund, International Financial Statistics and data files, 2013, <http://data.worldbank.org/country/tajikistan> accessed on 24/11/2013.

<sup>46</sup> The Economy Watch, Economic Indicator Listing in Year 2013, [http://www.economywatch.com/economic-statistics/economic-indicators/Inflation\\_Average\\_Consumer\\_Price\\_Change\\_Percentage/](http://www.economywatch.com/economic-statistics/economic-indicators/Inflation_Average_Consumer_Price_Change_Percentage/) accessed on 15/05/2014.

<sup>47</sup> CIA World Factbook, last updated on 14 April 2014, <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/ti.html> accessed on 24/11/2013.

<sup>48</sup> The World Bank, Global Development Indicators, based on World Bank national accounts data and OECD National Accounts data files, 2014, <http://data.worldbank.org/country/Tajikistan> accessed on 22/05/2014.

<sup>49</sup> The World Bank, Global Development Indicators, based on World Bank national accounts data and OECD National Accounts data files, 2014, <http://data.worldbank.org/indicator/NY.GDP.MKTP.KD.ZG/countries/TJ?display=graph> accessed on 15/05/2014.

<sup>50</sup> The World Bank, Tajikistan Overview, last updated 2014, <http://www.worldbank.org/en/country/tajikistan/overview> accessed on 15/05/2014.

<sup>51</sup> The World Bank, Global Development Indicators, Agriculture, value added (% of GDP), based on World Bank national accounts data and OECD National Accounts data files, 2013, <http://data.worldbank.org/indicator/NV.AGR.TOTL.ZS> accessed on 15/05/2014.

<sup>52</sup> The World Bank, Global Development Indicators, Industry, value added (% of GDP), based on World Bank national accounts data and OECD National Accounts data files, 2013, <http://data.worldbank.org/indicator/NV.IND.TOTL.ZS> accessed on 15/05/2014.

<sup>53</sup> The World Bank, Global Development Indicators, Services, etc., value added (% of GDP), based on World Bank national accounts data and OECD National Accounts data files, 2013, <http://data.worldbank.org/indicator/NV.SRV.TETC.ZS> accessed on 15/05/2014.

### 4.3. Labour Force and Unemployment

The total labour force in Tajikistan according to the latest data available is 3,483,609 persons, of which 56.4 per cent are male and 43.6 per cent are female.<sup>54</sup> The National Bank of Tajikistan lists the numbers of unemployed at 55.6 per 1,000 persons.<sup>55</sup> The Agency on Statistics under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan registers the number of officially registered unemployed citizens at 56,000 for the entire country in 2012.<sup>56</sup> The official unemployment rate is 2.5 per cent.<sup>57</sup>

It is important to note here that the official unemployment rate is actually lower than real rates. According to a summary by the US Department of State: "The official unemployment rate in Tajikistan is 2.6% (as of September 2011), but the actual rate is much higher. Approximately one million labour migrants work abroad, almost all of them in the Russian Federation. Indeed, there are areas of Tajikistan with few working-age males."<sup>58</sup>

### 4.4. Public Budget

Revenues<sup>59</sup> of state public budget, 2012 total: TJS 9,596,234,200 (USD 2,014,000,000).  
Revenues of state public budget, 2012 total as percentage of GDP: 26.5%.

Expenditures of state public budget, 2012 total: TJS 9,070,924,700<sup>60</sup> (USD 1,903,000,000).  
Expenditures of state public budget, 2012 total as percentage of GDP: 25.0%<sup>61</sup>.

Public debt (2012, USD): USD 3,322,873,000.  
Public debt as percentage of GNP: 35%<sup>62</sup>.

Total reserves (includes gold, current USD): USD 630,690,458.94 in 2012

### 4.5. Industrial Production Growth Rate

Major industries in Tajikistan include aluminium, cement, and vegetable oil.

Industrial production growth rate in 2012: 8%<sup>63</sup>

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<sup>54</sup> The World Bank, Global Development Indicators, International Labour Organization, using World Bank population estimates, 2014, <http://data.worldbank.org/country/tajikistan> accessed on 22/05/2014.

<sup>55</sup> National Bank of Tajikistan, 21 May 2014: <http://www.nbt.tj/en/kurs/?c=4&id=28&lang=en> accessed on 21/05/2014.

<sup>56</sup> Agency on Statistics under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan, undated, <http://www.stat.tj/en/macroeconomic-indicators/> accessed on 24/11/2013.

<sup>57</sup> Ibid.

<sup>58</sup> US Department of State, June 2012, <http://www.state.gov/e/eb/rls/othr/ics/2012/191246.htm> accessed on 24/11/2013.

<sup>59</sup> National Bank of Tajikistan, 21 May 2014, <http://www.nbt.tj/en/kurs/?c=4&id=28&lang=en> accessed on 21/05/2014.

<sup>60</sup> Asian Development Bank, Key Indicators for Asia and the Pacific 2013, May 2013, <http://www.adb.org/sites/default/files/ki/2013/pdf/TAJ.pdf>, accessed on 15/05/2014.

<sup>61</sup> Ibid.

<sup>62</sup> International Monetary Fund Republic of Tajikistan, Debt Sustainability Analysis Under the Debt Sustainability Framework for Low Income Countries, 26 April 2011, <http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/dsa/pdf/dsacr11130.pdf> accessed on 24/11/2013.

<sup>63</sup> CIA World Factbook, last updated on 14 April 2014, <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/ti.html> accessed on 24/11/2013.

## 4.6. Trade Balance

End of year trade balance figures, 2012<sup>64</sup>

	USD
Trade Balance	-2,418,784,200
Export	1,359,424,200
Import	3,778,208,400

Source: National Bank of Tajikistan.

## 4.7. Foreign Direct Investment<sup>65</sup>

Year	Value in USD
2005	54,479,300
2006	338,627,400
2007	359,967,400
2008	375,787,400
2009	15,819,400
2010	-14,727,100
2011	11,142,170

## 4.8. Development Assistance

According to the Agency on Statistics under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan, the country has received humanitarian and technical assistance for USD 54.6 million from 42 countries of the world in the first eight months of 2013. The main share of aid was provided by the United States of America (USA) – 64.6 per cent, the Russian Federation – 11.3 per cent, the Netherlands – 3.2 per cent, the People's Republic of China – 2.9 per cent, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) – 2.7 per cent, Denmark – 2.3 per cent, Austria – 1.8 per cent, the Republic of Korea – 1.3 per cent, United Kingdom – 1.2 per cent, Germany – 1.1 per cent, the Islamic Republic of Iran as well as India – 0.9 per cent each, Latvia – 0.8 per cent, Ukraine – 0.7 per cent, Kazakhstan – 0.6 per cent, France – 0.5 per cent, Pakistan – 0.4 per cent, Turkey, Israel, Afghanistan, Spain – 0.2 per cent each and others.<sup>66</sup>

## 4.9. Links and Contacts

### The Agency on Statistics under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan

734025, Dushanbe city, Bokhtar Street, 17

Tel.: (+ 992 37) 223 02 45; Fax: (+ 992 37) 221 43 75

E-mail: [stat@tojikiston.com](mailto:stat@tojikiston.com)

Website: [www.stat.tj](http://www.stat.tj)

<sup>64</sup> National Bank of Tajikistan, Trade Balance, undated, [http://nbt.tj/en/payments\\_balance/trade\\_balance/](http://nbt.tj/en/payments_balance/trade_balance/) accessed on 16/05/2014.

<sup>65</sup> Sources as indicated by Indexmundi: International Monetary Fund, Balance of Payments database, supplemented by data from the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and official national sources, last updated 23 April 2013, <http://www.indexmundi.com/facts/tajikistan/foreign-direct-investment> accessed on 24/11/2013.

<sup>66</sup> Tadjikistan poluchaet gumanitarnuyu pomosh iz Afghanistana, 17 September 2013: <http://news.tj/ru/news/tadjikistan-poluchaet-gumanitarnuyu-pomoshch-iz-afganistana> accessed on 28/03/2014.

**The National Bank of Tajikistan**

734003, Dushanbe city, Rudaki Avenue, 107 A

Tel.: (+ 992 44) 600 32 27; Fax: (+ 992 44) 600 32 55

E-mail: [info@nbt.tj](mailto:info@nbt.tj)

Website: [www.nbt.tj](http://www.nbt.tj)

## 5. INFRASTRUCTURE

### 5.1. Banking System

The main regulating bank in the country is the National Bank of Tajikistan.

Throughout the country, there are 16 commercial banks that provide a number of financial and banking services. Of the 16, there is one state bank, nine joint stock banks, and four foreign banks. These commercial banks have over 260 branches throughout the country.

According to the US Department of State, "The private sector has access to several different credit instruments, but interest rates in Tajikistan are very high – commercial banks offer loans with annual interest rates beginning at about 25%."<sup>67</sup>

#### Information of credit institutions operating in the Republic of Tajikistan, October 2013<sup>68</sup>

No	Name of credit institution	Address and number of telephone
1	OJSC "Agroinvestbank"	Dushanbe, 21 S.Sherozi Ave., Tel.: (+992 37) 236-51-66; 236-51-70; (+992 44) 600-53-06; 600-53-07; E-Mail: <a href="mailto:info@agroinvestbank.tj">info@agroinvestbank.tj</a>
2	OJSC "Oriyonbank"	Dushanbe, 95/1 Rudaki Ave., Tel.: (+992 37) 221-11-09; 221-10-19; (+992 44) 600-37-03; 600-37-13 E-Mail: <a href="mailto:info@orienbank.com">info@orienbank.com</a>
3	SSB of RT "Amonatbank"	Dushanbe, 24 Lohuti Str., Tel.: (+992 37) 221-70-81; 600-90-20 Fax: (+992 44) 600-90-60 E-Mail: <a href="mailto:info@amonatbank.tj">info@amonatbank.tj</a>
4	OJSC "Tojiksodirotbank"	Dushanbe, 47 Behzod Str., Tel.: (+992 44) 600-40-04; 600-40-10; 600-40-05 Fax: (+992 37) 221-76-69 E-Mail: <a href="mailto:info@tsb.tj">info@tsb.tj</a>
5	CJSC TJSC IBRR "Tajprombank"	Dushanbe, 22 Rudaki Ave., Tel.: (+992 37) 221-57-57; 221-27-20; 221-72-38 Fax: (+992 37) 221-25-85 E-Mail: <a href="mailto:info@tpb.tj">info@tpb.tj</a>
6	OJSC "Eskhata bank"	Khujand, 135 Gagarin Str., Gov. Tel.: (+992 3422) 6-59-17 Tel.: (+992 3422) 4-39-45; 6-46-77; 6-69-99 Fax: (+992 3422) 6-74-10 E-Mail: <a href="mailto:info@eskhata.tj">info@eskhata.tj</a>
7	OJSC "Sohibkorbank"	Dushanbe, 10/17 N.Muhammad Str., Tel.: (+992 37) 227-42-69; 227-92-31; 227-48-61 Fax: (+992 37) 224-42-69; E-Mail: <a href="mailto:info@sohibkorbank.com">info@sohibkorbank.com</a> Website: <a href="http://www.sohibkorbank.com">www.sohibkorbank.com</a>
8	CJSC "First microfinancing bank"	Dushanbe, 105 Rudaki Ave., Tel.: (+992 37) 251-02-26; 228-93-11; 228-93-14 Fax: (+992 37) 251-01-41 E-Mail: <a href="mailto:info@fmfb.com.tj">info@fmfb.com.tj</a>

<sup>67</sup> <http://photos.state.gov/libraries/tajikistan/231771/PDFs/2013-tajikistan-investment-climate-statement-final.pdf>

<sup>68</sup> National Bank of Tajikistan, 25 February 2014: [http://nbt.tj/en/banking\\_system/credit\\_org.php](http://nbt.tj/en/banking_system/credit_org.php) accessed on 24/11/2013.

9	"Tijorat" Bank Branch IRI in Dushanbe	Dushanbe, 88 Rudaki Ave., Tel.: (+992 44) 600-05-21; 600-05-25; Fax: (+992 37) 251-01-41 E-Mail: B_T_Dushanbe@Tejarat-bank.tj
10	CJSC "Bonki rushdi Tojikiston"	Dushanbe, 20 A. Pushkin Str., Tel.: (+992 44) 600-55-65; 600-55-60; 600-55-62, Fax: (+992 44) 600-55-64 E-Mail: info@brt.tj
11	CJSC "Fononbank"	Dushanbe, 17 M. Tursunzoda Str., Tel.: (+992 44) 600-80-10; 600-80-13; 600-80-09 (+992 907) 70 57 36 E-Mail: info@fononbank.tj
12	CJSC "Kazkommertsbank Tajikistan"	Dushanbe, 24 "a" Ayni Str., Tel.: (+992 44) 601-40-67; 601-40-42; 601-40-57 Fax: (+992 44) 601-40-44 E-Mail: bankinfo@kkb.tj
13	CJSC "Kafolatbank"	Dushanbe, 4/1 Academics Rajabovs Str., Tel.: (+992 44) 600-88-37; 640-22-66 E-Mail: kafolat@kafolat.com
14	CJSC "AccessBank Tajikistan"	Dushanbe, 61/1 Firdavsi Str. Tel.: (+992 37) 231-98-72; 231-98-58 Fax: (+992 37) 231-98-07 E-Mail: info@accessbank.tj
15	CJSC IB "Kont"	Dushanbe, Bukhara Str., apt., 43 Tel.: (+992 44) 620-99-11 Fax: (+992 44) 600-62-44 E-Mail: info@kontbank.com

There are also more than 100 micro credit and micro finance institutions throughout the country. They are listed here from the largest to the smallest.

<b>No</b>	<b>Name of micro-credit/deposit organizations</b>	<b>Address and number of telephone</b>
1	CJS MDO "Imon International "	Sughd Region, Khujand, Micro-district apt. 17 Tel.: (+992 3422) 4-23-53; 4-00-56; E-Mail: ssharipova@imon.tj; dmavlonov@imon.tj
2	LLC MCDO "Arvand"	Sughd Region, Khujand city , 135 "a" Y. Gagarin Str., Tel.: (+992 3422) 4-00-79; 927-95-00-03 E-Mail: office@mdoarvand.tj
3	LLC MCDO "Humo"	Dushanbe, 7 Abdullo Komandir Str., Tel: 935-77-10-47 E-Mail: secretary@humo.tj www.humo.tj
4	CJSC MCDO "Spitamen-Capital"	Dushanbe, 4 Shamsi Str. Tel.: (+992 44) 600-22-60; 600-22-62; 600-22-52 E-Mail: info@spitamencapital.tj www.spitamencapital.tj
5	LLC MCDO "Finka"	Dushanbe, 37 Muhammad Str. Tel./fax: (+992 37) 221-44-76, 221-44-86 E-Mail: reception@finca.tj; j.smelcer@finca.tj
6	LLC MCDO "Matin"	Sughd Region, Khujand city, 157 K. Khujandi Str. Tel.: (+992 3422) 6-12-61; 6-31-31; (+992 44) 630-25-80; 927-77-48-30; 927-78-55-77 E-Mail: matin@matin.tj
7	CJSC MDO "Capital plus"	Dushanbe, 55 Tolstoy Str. Tel.: (+992 44) 600-54-64; 600-54-66; 600-54-67; 600-54-65

		E-Mail: j_office@capitalplus.tj
8	LLC MCDO "Barakat"	Dushanbe, Sino District, 9 J.Rasulov Str. Tel.: (+992 44) 640-50-00; 640-50-03; (+992) 909-55-09-09, 918-46-61-00 E-Mail: daliboew@finbaracat.com www.finbaracat.com
9	CJSC MCDO "Daftari moliyavi"	Dushanbe, 9 Lohuti Str., apt. 9 Tel.: (+992 37) 221-12-50; 221-25-28; 918-62-08-83; 934-08-58-58 E-Mail: tj.findom@mail.ru
10	CJSC MCDO "Bovari va Hamkori"	Dushanbe, 5 Tashkentskaya Str., Tel.: (+992 37) 224-84-73; 600-42-45; 600-42-47 E-Mail: office_bovari@yahoo.com
11	LLC MDO "Sarmoyai Hikmat"	Dushanbe, Sino District, 13/5 Bakhoudinov Str., Tel.: (+992 37) 232-38-12; (+992 48) 701-75-08; 93-567-44-41 E-Mail: rasosadr@mail.ru
12	LLC MCDO "Guruhi moliyavii Vavilon"	Sughd Region, Khujand city, 5/1 Sir Daryo Str., Tel.: (+992 3422) 5-75-77; 5-54-97; 5-77-99, 985-65-00-00; 927-77-70-82 Fax: (+992 3422) 5-41-43 E-Mail: info@fgv.tj
13	CJSC MCDO "Hamrov"	Dushanbe, I. Somoni District, 172/2 Rudaki Ave., home 29 Tel.: (+992 37) 224-25-90; 918-62-04-51 E-Mail: hamrov@mail.ru
14	LLC MCDO "Dastras"	Dushanbe, 13 Ispechak Str., Tel.: (+992 37) 226-00-40; 904-04-99-66 E-Mail: dastras@mail.ru
15	LLC MCDO "Credit Express"	Dushanbe, M.Tursunzoda Str., alley 1, apt.3 Tel.: (+992 44) 600-64-64; 600-67-67; 918-79-54-54; 918-79-64-64 E-Mail: mdo@tojikiston.com
16	LLC MCDO "Argun"	Director: Rahmatova Mukhbira Mavlonkhojaevna Chief Accountant: Olimova Maysara Ruziboevna
17	CJSC MCDO "Nisor Fom"	Dushanbe, District I. Somoni, 55/1 Rudaki Ave., room 28 Tel.: (+992 44) 600-89-90; 600-89-92; 600-89-93 E-Mail: mdonisorfom@mail.ru
18	LLC MCDO "Muzaffariyat"	Sughd Region, Khujand city, 166 K. Hujandi Str., Tel.: (+992 3422) 6-05-96; 918-80-50-30; 928-41-00-84 E-Mail: muzaffariyat_mdo@mail.ru
19	CJSC MCDO "Amlok"	Dushanbe, Firdavsi District, 92/1 N.Karaboev Str., Tel.: (+992 37) 234-16-04; 234-16-08; 935-89-41-87 E-Mail: amlok@mail.ru
20	CJSC MDO "Trast"	Sughd Region, Khujand city, Kh. Usmanov Str., 1b Tel.: (+992 3422) 5-55-60; 5-55-40; 927-76-20-70; 951-56-01-45 E-Mail: trast-05@list.ru
21	LLC MCDO "Tezinfoz"	Dushanbe, 7 Ayni Str., Tel.: (+992 44) 600-78-50.
22	LLC MCDO "Azizi Invest"	Khujand city, 203"b" Lenin Str., 735700 Tel.: (+992 44) 630-20-23; (+992 3422) 4-42-62; 92-790-11-11; 92-709-11-15 E-Mail: azizi_invest@mail.ru

23	LLC MDO "Vaslat"	Dushanbe, 41/2 Sino Str., Tel./Fax: (+992 37) 236-65-70; (+992 37) 235-43-89, (+992 918) 38-81-47 E-Mail: vaslat@bk.ru
24	LLC MCDO "Hamdasti"	Sughd Region, Khujand city, 146 "a" K. Khujandi Str., Tel.: (+992 3422) 4-58-68; 927-77-07-26; 927-70-89-33 E-Mail: hamdasti_office@mail.ru
25	CJSC MLO "Vorisi Zamon"	Dushanbe, I Somoni District, 32 "a" Turdiev Str., Tel.: (+992 37) 221-96-20; 985-95-77-80 E-Mail: voresizamon@mail.ru
26	CJS MDO "Moliya va Sarmoya"	Sughd Region, Khujand city, 4 Mavlonbekov Ave., Tel.: (+992 3422) 6-06-23; 6-53-84; 6-13-17; Fax: (+992 3422) 6-06-23; 90-404-42-11
27	LLC MCDO "Tamvil"	Dushanbe, 24 "a" Ayni Str., Tel.: (+992 44) 601-28-03; (+992 44) 601-28-04 E-Mail: tamvil@bk.ru
28	CJS MDO "CMT-Sarmoya "	Dushanbe, 34 Ayni Str., Tel.: 918-11-11-68
29	LLC MCDO "Vomdeh"	Dushanbe, Shohmansur District, 3 Tursunzoda Str., Tel.: (+992 37) 221-83-67; 701-88-73 Fax: (+992 37) 221-10-27 E-Mail: arshad-kredit@mail.ru; arshad-kredit@tajnet.tj
30	LLC MCDO "Pakhta-Sarmoya"	Dushanbe, Firdavsi District, 6 S. Sherozi Ave., Tel.: (+992 37) 221-45-17; 221-16-24; 93-406-66-25; 951-30-00-88 E-Mail: pakhta_sarmoya@mail.ru
31	LLC MCDO "Kiropol-Express"	Khatlon Region, District Bohtar, Jamoat of I.Somoni township, Sino Str., apt., 5 Tel.: (+992 3245) 927-76-13-71; 934-05-88-66 E-Mail: mlf.kiropol@mail.ru
32	LLC MCDO "Service-Credit"	Dushanbe, 100 N.Karaboev Str., Tel.: (+992 37) 234-65-43; 234-67-10; 907-72-06-61; 907-72-13-22 E-Mail: umedho@mail.ru
33	CJSC MCDO "Azima Invest"	Dushanbe, 21/17 Ayni Str., Tel.: (+992 44) 600-60-17, 600-60-18, 600-60-19 E-Mail: mdo.bj@mail.ru, raisa-mdo@mail.ru, rustamish@mail.ru
34	LLC MDO "Somon-Tijorat"	Dushanbe, Firdausi District, 58 N. Karaboev Str., Tel.: (+992 37) 234-30-06; 234-80-79; (+992) 917-71-86-26, 907-35-88-82 E-Mail: somon-tijorat@yandex.ru
35	LLC MDO "Amonat-Credit"	Dushanbe, 14 Pushkin Str., Tel.: (+992) 935-07-00-77 E-Mail: microcred@mail.ru
36	LLC MCDO "Tijorat-karz"	Dushanbe, District I. Somoni, 25/8 Kurbonova Str., Tel.: (+992 37) 227-52-72, 227-52-73; 934-33-77-66, 927-78-41-21 E-Mail: b_kredit@mail.ru
37	CJSC MCDO "Burok-1"	Dushanbe, 34 Ayni Str., Tel.: (+992 37) 227-10-18; (+992 91) 815-51-90 E-Mail: burog-1@mail.ru, info@burog-1.tj

<b>№</b>	<b>Name of micro-loan organizations</b>	<b>Address and number of telephone</b>
1	LLC MLO "Oxsus"	Dushanbe, 73 Tolstoy Str., Tel.: (+992 37) 224-32-28; Fax: (+992 37) 224-60-08; 224-60-09; (+992 90) 770-77-14; (+992 92) 780-91-55 E-Mail: dushanbe@oxusnetwork.org www.oxusnetwork.org
2	LLC MLO "Imkoniyat Khovar"	Khatlon Region, Kurganteppa city, B. Gafurov Str., apt., 10 Tel.: (+992 3222) 2-23-90; (+992 91) 861-79-35; (+992 91) 906-68-28 E-Mail: imkoniyat@mail.ru
3	LLC MLO "Furuz"	Khatlon Region, Kurgan Tube city, 27 Ayni Str., Tel.: (+992 3222) 2-38-28; 2-73-04; (+992 98) 503-61-18 E-Mail: furuz-kt@mrds.org
4	LLC MLO "Rushdi Vose"	Khatlon Region, District Vose, Jamoat Mirzoali Vaisov, village Chorbog Tel.: (+992 98) 524-64-34; 985-01-51-77
5	LLC MLO "Necsigol-Moliya"	Sughd Region, Khujand city, 2 Boboeva Str., Tel.: (+992 3422) 6-72-11; (+992 92) 770-67-90; 70-13-97 E-Mail: office_SASMF@mail.ru
6	LLC MLO "Yab"	Khatlon Region, District Vose, Jamoat Abdi Avazov, village Big Voseobod. Tel.: (+992 918) 62 -53 -10; (+992 98) 107-91-65
7	LLC MLO "Madina va Hamkoron"	Badakhshon Region, Khorugh city, 11 Toshmuhamedov Str., Tel.: (+992 3522) 2-43-60; (+992 93) 555-47-36; E-Mail: ngomadina@ramble.ru
8	LLC MLO "Mehnatobod"	Khatlon Region, Bokhtar District, Jamoat "Mehnatobod", Markazi Str., 64a Tel.: (+992 91) 743-33-33; 917-38-10-20 E-Mail: mlomehnat@yandex.ru
9	LLC MLO "Voruh"	Sughd Region, District Isfara, Jamoat Voruh, Rudaki Str., 123a. Tel.: (+992 92) 760-72-44; (+992 91) 852-58-97, (+992 91) 870-75-31 E-Mail: golibu@mail.ru
10	LLC MLO "Khubjam"	Sughd Region, Khujand city, K. Khujandi, 229 Tel.: (+992 3422) 6-22-95; 6-23-95; (+992 92) 768-01-40; (+992 91) 868-08-70 E-Mail: hubjam2008@mail.ru
11	LLC MLO "Rushdi Pomir"	Badakhshon Region, Horug city, S. Abdurahmon Str., 10 Tel.: (+992 93) 600 89 99; E-Mail: rushdipomir@mail.ru
12	LLC MLO "Imkon 2010"	Dushanbe, Valamatzoda Str., 8/1, apt., 4 Tel.: (+992 37) 227-58-27; 227-58-38; (+992 91) 725-05-17 E-Mail: imkon2010@mail.ru
13	LLC MLO "Rushdi obthoron"	Khatlon Region, District Shahrituz Jamoat "Obshoron". Tel.: (+992 91) 889-93-46; (+992 91) 937-60-92 E-Mail: rushdi_obshoron@mail.ru

14	LLC MLO "Dustcom"	Dushanbe, District I.Somoni, Ayni Str., 40, room 40
15	CJSC MLO "Madadgori Mastchoh"	Sughd Region, Mastchoh District Buston township, I.Somoni Str., apt., 48/6 Tel.: (+992 3445) 2-20-72; (+992 92) 750-75-93; (+992 92) 744-83-24 E-Mail: nbfo-m2004@mail.ru
16	LLC MLO "Gender va Tarakiyot"	Dushanbe, Bukhoro Str., 8/1, apt.50/2 room 18 Tel.: (+992 37) 221-87-38; (+992 91) 885-26-43; (+992 91) 885-81-99, (+992 37) 881-74-10 E-Mail: nigina-mlo@yandex.ru
17	LLC MLO "Avrangzeb"	Fayzobod District, Fayzobod township, Shoev Str., 15/4 Tel.: (+992 3135) 3-22-43; (+992 95) 172-97-40; E-Mail: avrang-09@mail.ru
18	LLC MLO "Avlodon"	Vahdat city, jamoat B.Burunov, village Gulobod micro-district 17 apt.
19	LLC MLO "Ishkoshim"	Ishkoshim District, village Ishkoshim, Lenin Str., apt. 1 Tel.: (+992 3553) 2-10-15; (+992 93) 513-31-57; (+992 93) 459-42-57 E-Mail: ishkoshim@mail.ru
20	LLC MLO "Shuroobod"	Khatlon Region, District Shurobod, Jamoat Shurobod, village Serdarak. Tel.: (+992 3319) 2-15-01; (+992 90) 110-99-02; (+992 90) 110-99-01 E-Mail: shurobod@bk.ru
21	LLC MLO "Haqiqi Jahon"	Dushanbe, J. Rasulov Str., 10. Tel.: (+992 44) 600-35-70; (+992 93) 571-05-51; E-Mail: junaydova.h-jahon@tojikiston.com
22	CJSC MLO "Kishovarzon"	Khatlon Region, Kolkhozobod District, Jamoat Guliston, Begijon Khushnudov Str., 2, Apt. 2 Tel.: (+992 91) 861-61-75; (+992 95) 195-62-09
23	LLC MLO "Behnamo"	Dushanbe, Tursunzoda Str., 38/2 room 40. Tel.: (+992 37) 221-69-10; (+992 91) 867-20-58; (+992 91) 887-36-20 E-Mail: behnamo55@mail.ru
24	LLC MLO "Bazis-Credit"	Dushanbe, N.Karaboev Str., 112, Apt. 39 Tel.: (+992 37) 234-88-48; (+992 95) 162-77-77 E-Mail: bazis-kredit@mail.ru
25	CJSC MLO "Umedi Yovon"	Khatlon Region, Yavan town Lenin Str., 62 Tel.: (+992 3141) 2-46-15, (+992 95) 153-43-85;
26	LLC MLO "Rushdi Darvoz"	Badakhshon Region, Darvoz District, Village Kalai – Khumb, Tel.: (+992 3552) 2-17-28; (+992 93) 527-14-20; (+992 93) 400-05-44 E-Mail: ssaidahmad@mail.ru
27	CJSC MLO "Omad"	Sughd Region, Zafarobod District, Jamoat "Hamid Aliev", Sh.Bekmurodov Str., Apt.4 Tel.: (+992 92) 759-06-02; (+992 92) 751-11-24 E-Mail: akmaljon77@mail.ru
28	CJSC MLO "Barhaq"	Shahrinav District, Jamoat "Selbur" Village Selbur-1 Tel.: (+992 98) 503-86-05; (+992 91) 869-47-68
29	LLC MLO "Khazinai Somoniyon "	Dushanbe, Sino District Sino Str., 136/6, apt. 1-2 Tel.: (+992 37) 235-95-16; 236-76-26; (+992 91) 764 17 17
30	CJSC MLO "Ziroat 04"	Dushanbe Giprozem Str., 30/5, apt. 4 Tel.: (+992 37) 239-32-11; (+992 91) 866-97-29;

		(+992 93) 504-69-32 E-Mail: murodali.hatamov@mail.ru
31	LLC MLO "Asrina"	Sughd Region, Khujand city, Yu. Gagarin Str., 5a Tel.: (+992 3422) (+992 48) 701-23-01; (+992 91) 949-14-14; (+992 92) 708-99-90 E-Mail: hasan-invest@rambler.ru
32	CJSC MLO "Rushdi Zanon"	Sughd Region, Panjakent city, Rudaki Ave., apt. 85 Tel.: (+992 3475) 5-43-29; (+992 92) 815-66-88 E-Mail: sulhiya@hotmail.com
33	LLC MLO "Mehrobod"	Sughd Region, Asht District, Jamoat "Mehrobod" Tel.: (+992 3453) 2-21-53; (+992 92) 701-01-61; (+992 90) 762-01-04, E-Mail: mzokamishkurgan2007@rambler.ru
34	LLC MLO "Dahana"	Khatlon Region, District Kulob, Jamoat Dahana, village Dahana Tel.: (+992 99) 862-72-82; (+992 98) 823-69-42; (+992 91) 938-94-62
35	LLC MLO "Kayoniyon"	Khatlon Region, Yavan district Lenin Str., 8 Tel.: (+992 3141) 2-11-13; (+992 91) 870-91-50 E-Mail: a_abdullobek@mail.ru
36	LLC MLO "Renessans-Credit"	Badakhshon Region, Ishkoshim district Tel.: (+992 93) 513-31-57; (+992 93) 541-43-59; E-Mail: halimsho@list.ru
37	LLC MLO "Saodat-Sarmoya"	Sughd Region, Khujand city, 121 Firdavsi Str., apt. 4 Tel./Fax: (+992 3422) 6-24-81; (+992 92) 777-31-13; (+992 93) 450-00-00; (+992 92) 770-47-55 E-Mail: saodat_invest@mail.ru
38	LLC MLO "Selskoe Finansirovanie I Razvitie"	Sughd Region, Khujand city, micro-district 16 GSP-18 (building of Soros fund) Tel.: reception (+992 3422) 2-21-04; (+992 92) 770-21-50; (+992 92) 900-70-70 E-Mail: nash_sezar@mail.ru, ilhom.Gulomjanov@acted.org
39	LLC MLO "Orifi Shahri Vahdat"	Vahdat city, Jamoat Bozorboy Burunov, village Gulobod Tel.: (+992 91) 901-88-24; (+992 91) 922-05-26
40	CJSC MLO "Durnamoi dehoti Rudaki"	Sughd Region, Panjakent city, jamoat Rudaki, village Kuloli Tel.: (+992 92) 806-89-11
41	LLC MLO "Fermer"	Dushanbe, 44 Rudaki Ave., Tel./Fax: (+992 37) 221-65-51; 227-18-17, (+992 90) 100-64-76
42	CJSC MLO "Subhi Urmetan"	Sughd Region, Ayni district, jamoat Urmetan, village Urmetan Tel.: (+992 92) 798-83-83
<b>No</b>	<b>Name of micro-loan funds</b>	<b>Address and number of telephone</b>
1	MLF "Imon"	Sughd Region, Khujand city, Micro-district 17, apt. 2 Tel.: (+992 3422) 4-00-56; 4-23-53; Fax: (+992 3422) 2-57-44; (+992 92) 770-20-67; (+992 92) 777-71-71 E-Mail: dmavlonov@imon.tj
2	MLF "Rushdi Vodii Zarafshon"	Sughd Region, Penjikent town, 14 Rudaki Ave., Tel.: (+992 3475) 5-82-59; (+992 92) 780-57-45;

		(+992 92) 780-57-72 E-Mail: jovid75@bk.ru
3	MLF "MicroInvest"	Sughd Region, Khujand city, 83 "a" Sharq Str., Tel./fax: (+992 48) 774-23-24; (+992 48) 701-22-33; (+992 92) 774-23-24; (+992 92) 873-80-83 E-Mail: nasrullo@mail.ru
4	MCF "Ravnak"	Sughd Region, Khujand city, 3 Lenin Str., apt. 7 Tel.: (+992 3422) 6-67-49; (+992 92) 770-17-25 E-Mail: mlf_phoenixplus@khujandi.com
5	MLF "Rohnamo"	Dushanbe, I. Somoni district, 81 Rudaki Ave., apt. 2 Tel.: (+992 37) 221-70-95; (+992 42) 780-00-14; (+992 42) 780-00-24 E-Mail: elena.reznik@mail.ru
6	MLF "Nuri Humo"	Dushanbe, Abdullo Komandir Str., 7 Tel.: (+992 37) 224-26-68; 224-57-97; (+992 93) 577- 75-00; (+992 93) 575-95-56 E-Mail: info@humo.tj www.humo.tj
7	MLF "Rushdi Sugd"	Sughd Region, District B. Gafurov, Jamoat Yova, "Firdavs" sanatorium Tel.: (+992 92) 707-57-10; (+992 92) 760-94-92 E-Mail: MLF.sughdmicrofin@gmail.com
8	MLF "Borshud"	Dushanbe, Firdavsi Str., 5/3, apt. 42 Tel.: (+992 37) 231-38-77; (+992 93) 441-66-66; (+992 93) 579-75-75 E-Mail: info@borshud.tj, shodmonibragim@mail.ru, www.borshud.tj
9	MLF "Jovid"	Sughd Region, Chkalovsk city, Oplanchuk Str., 1 "a" Tel.: (+992 3422) 448-98-79; (+992 92) 707-01-50; (+992 92) 707-26-98 E-Mail: valerrus@mail.ru; zerunchik2005@mail.ru
10	MLF "Hamyori"	Sughd Region, Khujand city, Tanburi Str., apt. 46 "b" Tel.: (+992 3422) 6-72-75; (+992 92) 750-26-83; (+992 91) 841-69-75 E-Mail: adham78@imbox.ru; nek_ruz@mail.ru
11	MLF "Imdodi Hutal"	Khatlon Region, Kulob city, N. Huvayduloev Str., 13 apt. 30 Tel.: (+992 91) 845-67-17; (+992 91) 831-05-97 E-Mail: imdodi-khytal@mail.ru
12	MLF "Fayzi Surhob"	District Rasht, Garm town, I. Somoni Str., 13 "A" Tel.: (+992 91) 880-79-79; (+992 98) 564-99-33 E-Mail: sherov_71@mail.ru
13	MLF "Vahsh Mikrofin"	Khatlon Region, Kurgan - Tube city, Shoymardonov Str., 25. Tel.: (+992 3222) 3-61-42; (+992 44) 620-11-11; (+992 91) 858-98-46; (+992 91) 893-89-42 E-Mail: vahsh_microfin@mail.ru
14	MLF "Imdodi Rushd"	Dushanbe, 137 I. Somoni Str., apt. 629 Tel.: (+992 93) 409-87-47; (+992 98) 596-25-86 E-Mail: imrushd2009@rambler.ru
15	MLF "Imkoniyat"	Khatlon Region, Kurgan-Tube city, Gafurov Str., 10 Tel.: (+992 3222) 2-23-90; (+992 91) 886-32-66; (+992 91) 906-68-28 E-Mail: f.saidova66@mail.ru; imkoniyat@mail.ru
16	MLF "Zar"	Dushanbe, A.Navoi Str., 5/6, apt. 26 Tel.: (+992 37) 236-23-67; (+992 93) 514-51-05; (+992 93) 514-51-01 E-Mail: zarlending@mail.ru

17	MLF "Chiluchor chashma"	Khatlon Region, Shahritus District, Rudaki Str., Apt. 24 Tel.: (+992 3240) 2-19-54
18	MLF "Ehyoi Kuhiston"	Jirgatal District, 12 Dusti Str., Tel.: (+992 91) 858-60-77; (+992 91) 845-54-97 E-Mail: ehyo@mail.ru
19	MLF "Asti"	Sughd Region, Khujand city, 24 Shuro Str., Tel./Fax: (+992 48) 701-27-10; (+992 92) 779-04-05; (+992 92) 778-85-66 E-Mail: operator.mlf@asti.tj; mlf_asti@sugdinter.com
20	MLF "Haqiq"	Dushanbe, 94/5Tursunzoda Str., Tel.: (+992 44) 600-35-70; (+992 93) 571-05-51; (+992 90) 732-33-62 E-Mail: junaydova.h-jahon@tojikiston.com
21	MLF "Armon"	Dushanbe, 40 Tursunzoda Str., 3 floor, apt. 40 Tel.: (+992 93) 597-55-99; (+992 93) 598-55-99; E-Mail: zuma_d@mail.ru; mlf_armon@mail.ru
22	MLF "Zainalobiddin"	Khatlon Region, Jilikul District, 22 Proletarskaya Str. Tel.: (+992 3252) 2-19-48; (+992 93) 586-44-16
23	MLF "Madina"	Khorugh city, 11 Toshmukhamedov Str. Tel.: (+992 3522) 2-43-60; (+992 93) 555-47-36; (+992 93) 424-41-10 E-Mail: ngomadina@ramble.ru
24	MLF "Kiropol"	Khatlon Region, Bokhtar District, Jamoat I.Somoni, Sino Str., apt. 15 Tel.: (+992 93) 538-54-41; (+992 93) 403-43-34 E-Mail: mlf.kiropol@mail.ru
25	MLF "Tugarakiyon"	Khatlon Region, District Vose, Jamoat "Tugarak". Tel.: (+992 91) 889-88-51; (+992 98) 803-77-89
26	MLF "Istiqlol"	Sughd Region, J.Rasulov District, village Uzbekqishloq, 122 Lenin Str. Tel.: (+992 92) 750-25-92 E-Mail: Rakhimzoda_60@mail.ru
27	MLF "Baror"	Sughd Region, Khujand city, 142 K. Khujandi Str., apt. 6 Tel.: (+992 3422) 6-01-27; (+992 95) 133-64-95; (+992 95) 185-45-27 E-Mail: mcfbaror2006@rambler.ru
28	MLF "Pakhtaobod"	Khatlon Region, District Vose, Jamoat M. Vaisov, village Chorbog Tel.: (+992 91) 866-19-09; (+992 98) 501-51-77
29	MLF "Dehkonaric"	Khatlon Region, District Parhar, Jamoat Dehkonaric village Archa. Tel.: (+992 90) 793-49-16; (+992 90) 737-13-47 E-Mail: eshonov66@mail.ru
30	MLF "Kullai Umed"	Tavildara District, Jamoat "Childara" Tel.: (+992 3156) 6-00-02; (+992 91) 831- 85-15; (+992 98) 104-26-60
31	MLF "Somit"	Dushanbe, Buston Str., Apt. 6 Tel.: (+992 37) 225-54-87; (+992 90) 780-17-23; (+992 91) 976-74-71 E-Mail: somit_fund@vahoo.ru
32	MLF "Najm"	Khatlon Region, Khuroson District, Jamoat of Obikiik township Tel. :(+992 3242) 2-16-41; (+992 93) 503-60-42; (+992 93) 471-51-50
33	MLF "Hamroz –Tus"	Khatlon Region, Shahritus district, 33 N.Khusrav Str.

		Tel.: (+992 3240) 2-18-26; (+992 91) 780-72-22
34	MLF "Solihin"	Khatlon Region, District Vose, Jamoat "Michurin" village Anoriston Tel.: (+992 98) 859-45-35 E-Mail: bakht_mehnat@mail.ru
35	MLF "Haft Ganj"	Sughd Region, Panjakent town, Rudaki Ave., apt. 35 Tel.: (+992 92) 755-70-34; (+992 92) 787-62-53 E-Mail: meroj62@mail.ru
36	MLF "Oxsus"	Dushanbe, 73 Tolstoy Str.
37	MLF "Maqsadi dastgiri"	District Jirgatal, Jamoat "Yangishahr" Tel.: (+992 93) 589-19-62
38	MLF "Haymahmadi"	Fayzobod District, jamoat Buston, Haymahmadi vilage
39	MLF "Shabi Meroj"	Dushanbe, District I. Somoni, 1 Gani Abdullo Str., Tel.: (+992 37) 224-26-60

## 5.2. Telecommunication

### 5.2.1. Telephone

The international calling code for Tajikistan is +992. Local calling codes for the larger cities, when dialling fixed landline, are below.

Bokhtar	+992 37745
Dushanbe	+992 372
Dusti	+992 3249
Gharm	+992 3131
Kairakkum	+992 34402
Khorugh	+992 35220
Khujand	+992 3422
Kolkhozabad	+992 3771
Kulob	+992 3322
Panjakent	+992 3475
Qurghonteppa	+992 3222
Shartuz	+992 3240

The state-run Tajiktelecom operates the majority of fixed landline telephone services in the country.

Mobile phones have become widely available throughout the country, which an estimated 92 mobile phones subscribers per 100 persons.<sup>69</sup>

### 5.2.2. Mobile Phone Services

There are a number of mobile phone service providers, including the following below. Calling, message, and data plan costs are viewable on the websites below, and have been falling consistently in recent years as cell phone penetration and competition among providers has continued to grow.

Many people use prepaid mobile phone plans or other options, which are inexpensive and can fit people's budget. Prices for calls inside the country from Beeline vary from TJS 0.5 to

<sup>69</sup> The World Bank, 11 January 2014, [http://www.quandl.com/WORLDBANK-World-Bank/TJK\\_IT\\_CEL\\_SETS\\_P2-Tajikistan-Mobile-cellular-subscriptions-per-100-people](http://www.quandl.com/WORLDBANK-World-Bank/TJK_IT_CEL_SETS_P2-Tajikistan-Mobile-cellular-subscriptions-per-100-people) accessed on 11/01/2014.

TJS 5<sup>70</sup>; from Megafon TJS 0.6 to TJS 5<sup>71</sup>. Affordable Tcell and Babilon-Mobile companies' plans start at TJS 0.6<sup>72</sup> and TJS 0.4<sup>73</sup> respectively.

Mobile cellular subscriptions in Tajikistan was 6,528,000<sup>74</sup> as of 2012 which is a slight increase from 2011 when subscription rate was 6,324,000<sup>75</sup> people and the value for subscriptions (per 100 people) was last reported at 81.51<sup>76</sup> per cent in 2012, according to the World Bank. Thus, the mobile coverage and density per capita has significantly increased and now extends to all major cities and towns of the country.

### Mobile Phone Providers

Provider	Website
Babilon Mobile	<a href="http://www.babilon-m.tj">http://www.babilon-m.tj</a>
TCell (Indigo-Somoncom)	<a href="http://www.tcell.tj">http://www.tcell.tj</a>
Beeline	<a href="http://www.beeline.tj">http://www.beeline.tj</a>
TK Mobile	<a href="http://www.t-kmobile.com">http://www.t-kmobile.com</a>
Megafon	<a href="http://www.megafon.tj">http://www.megafon.tj</a>

### Emergency Phone Numbers

01	Fire Department
02	Police
03	Ambulance
04	Gas Department
07	Operator assisted long-distance calls
09	Information Department

### 5.2.3. Internet

There were an estimated 14.5 internet users per 100 persons in the country in 2012, about double the amount of five years earlier.<sup>77</sup> A growing number of public restaurants, cafés, and shared spaces offer free Wi-Fi internet use for visitors.

Fixed broadband internet access is scarce among the population, offered through the following companies:

Provider	Address	Telephone	E-mail	Website
TojNet	55 Rudaki Ave., Dushanbe, 734025, Tajikistan	(+992 37) 227-02-98; 221-10-05; 221-75-08	<a href="mailto:info@tojnet.tj">info@tojnet.tj</a>	<a href="http://www.tojnet.tj">www.tojnet.tj</a>
GameLine	28 Pulodi Str.,	(+992 37) 221-	n/a	<a href="http://www.gameline.tj">www.gameline.tj</a>

<sup>70</sup> Beeline, Vse tarifnye plany, undated, <http://mobile.beeline.tj/ru/main/tarifs/all/index.wbp> accessed on 28/03/2014.

<sup>71</sup> Megafon, Tarify I optsii, undated, <http://www.megafon.tj/tariffs/alltariffs/> accessed on 28/03/2014.

<sup>72</sup> Tcell, Tarify, undated, <http://www.tcell.tj/> accessed on 28/03/2014.

<sup>73</sup> Babilon-Mobile, Tarify, undated, <http://www.babilon-m.com/tarifs/> accessed on 28/03/2014.

<sup>74</sup> The World Bank, Global Development Indicators, based on International Telecommunication Union, World Telecommunication/ICT Development Report and database and World Bank estimates, 2013, <http://data.worldbank.org/indicator/IT.CEL.SETS/countries/TJ?display=graph> accessed on 18/05/2014.

<sup>75</sup> Ibid.

<sup>76</sup> The World Bank, Global Development Indicators, based on International Telecommunication Union, World Telecommunication/ICT Development Report and database and World Bank estimates, 2013, <http://data.worldbank.org/indicator/IT.CEL.SETS.P2/countries/TJ?display=graph> accessed on 18/05/2014.

<sup>77</sup> The World Bank, Global Development Indicators, based on International Telecommunication Union, World Telecommunication/ICT Development Report and database and World Bank estimates, 2014, <http://data.worldbank.org/country/tajikistan> accessed on 22/05/2014.

	Dushanbe, 734013, Tajikistan	74-75; 221-51-52		
Saturn-Online	Tursunzoda Str., Business Centre "Poitaht", 4 <sup>th</sup> floor	(+992 37) 227-81-64	n/a	www.saturn.tj
Intercom	81/2 Rudaki Ave., Dushanbe	(+992 42) 780-01-01; (+992 37) 221-70-95	intercom@tjinter.com	www.intercom.tj
Istera	21 Rudaki Ave., Dushanbe, 734025, Tajikistan	(+992 37) 227-01-01		www.eastera.tj
Telecomm Technology	48/3 Bohtar Str., Dushanbe, 734002, Tajikistan	(+992 48) 701-88-88; 701-00-11	info@tajnet.tj	http://www.ttl.tj
Tarena	10 Academic Rajabov Ave., Dushanbe, 734042, Tajikistan	(+992 37) 221-14-53; 223-05-88	info@tarena.tj	www.tarena.tj
Babilon-T	4 Dehlavi Str., Dushanbe, 734012, Tajikistan	(+992 44) 601-60-60	info@babilon-t.tj	www.babilon-t.tj

Due to its comparative affordability vis-à-vis broadband access, mobile broadband use through USB modems has expanded rapidly. USB modems can be purchased either through the mobile phone service providers' offices or at various computer stores throughout the country's cities. Access to the internet is then on a pay-per-use payment plan.

Fixed broadband access to the internet accounted for 30,000 people in 2012<sup>78</sup> while the use of mobile internet has extended broadly allowing people to access the web using the latest technology in GSM, 3G, 3.5G and 4G communication standards.

The four major mobile operators such as: Beeline<sup>79</sup>, Megafon<sup>80</sup>, T-cell<sup>81</sup> and Babilon<sup>82</sup> have their own maps showing coverage in a certain geographic area of Tajikistan and intended to provide general guidance on where their networks and outdoor coverage is available. To date, a few districts of the Badakhshan province, Kuhistoni Mastchoh district in the Sughd province and Tavildara district in the Regions of Republican Subordination are not fully covered. The remaining territory of the country is covered by the mobile internet.<sup>83</sup>

Most major cell phone companies in Tajikistan give the option of choosing an affordable plan to satisfy their customers. Beeline, Megafon, T-cell and Babilon companies are the ones to change up their pricing regularly to meet the population's needs. Each company offers different plans for various prices and these plans may be offered on an ongoing basis or as a temporary service that a person can sign up for a single month.

<sup>78</sup> Tajikistan – Telecoms, Mobile and Internet, last updated 9 April 2014, : <http://www.budde.com.au/Research/Tajikistan-Telecoms-Mobile-and-Internet.html> accessed on 19/05/2014.

<sup>79</sup> Coverage map, <http://mobile.beeline.tj/ru/main/zone/index.wbp> accessed on 19/05/2014.

<sup>80</sup> Coverage map, <http://www.megafon.tj/coverage/3g/> <http://www.megafon.tj/coverage/3g/> accessed on 19/05/2014.

<sup>81</sup> Coverage zone, <http://www.tcell.tj/ru/index/index/pageld/314/> accessed on 19/05/2014.

<sup>82</sup> Coverage zone, <http://www.babilon-m.tj/coverage/64/index.php> accessed on 19/05/2014.

<sup>83</sup> Public Fund "Internet", Tajikistan Electronic Readiness Assessment, Dushanbe 2010, [http://www.eeca-ict.eu/uploads/new\\_documents/eReadiness\\_of\\_Tajikistan\\_full\\_En.pdf](http://www.eeca-ict.eu/uploads/new_documents/eReadiness_of_Tajikistan_full_En.pdf) accessed on 19/05/2014.

## Beeline<sup>84</sup>

24-hrs data package	Data size per day	Data package rate per megabyte	Total data package rate
i30	30 MB	TJS 0.10	TJS 3.00
i50	50 MB	TJS 0.07	TJS 3.50

## Megafon<sup>85</sup>

24-hrs data package	Data size per day	Data package rate per megabyte	Total data package rate
Byte 50	50 MB	TJS 0.03	TJS 1.50
Byte 100	100 MB	TJS 0.025	TJS 2.50

### 5.3. Postal Services

The *State Department "Pochtai Tojikiston"*, also known as the "*Tojikpost*", is Tajikistan's official Postal Service provider that was created in 1996. It unites three district, one inter-district and two postal offices situated in the capital of Tajikistan. At present, the postal network of the country includes 60 urban and rural connections and 593 post offices.

**The main international Courier Delivery Services to Tajikistan include**

Courier Services	Address	Contact Information
DHL	Druzhby Narodov St 62, Dushanbe 734024, Tajikistan	Tel: (+992 37) 2221999; 2210280
GlobalLink	9/1, Malika Sabirova Street, 2nd floor, Dushanbe, Tajikistan	Tel: (+992 37) 2217767 Fax: (+992 37) 2217790; E-Mail: <a href="mailto:dushanbe@globalinkllc.com">dushanbe@globalinkllc.com</a>

Delivery of letters and parcels to and from Europe and North America can take between one and two months. Stamps, postcards and envelopes may be purchased from post offices.

Postal services available include registered mail, restricted delivery, special delivery and Express mail (in Dushanbe only). Both surface and air mail are available for parcels.

#### Post office hours:

Monday – Friday: 8 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Saturday: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

### 5.4. Transportation

#### 5.4.1. Road

According to the latest available data, there are more than 2,700 km of paved roads in the country (more than 82% of total roads).<sup>86</sup> Road quality in some mountainous parts of the

<sup>84</sup> Beeline Tadzhikistan, Uslugi, Skidki na Internet dlya telephona, <http://mobile.beeline.tj/ru/internet/services/service.wbp?bm=e2cee150-d75b-45be-b4fc-e028aa3dd31d&id=ae75e9a2-e979-4309-82fd-37eb3f925a58> accessed on 25/03/2014.

<sup>85</sup> Megafon Tojikiston, Pakety I tarifnye optsii, [http://www.megafon.tj/internet/frommobile/services/to\\_bit1.html#442](http://www.megafon.tj/internet/frommobile/services/to_bit1.html#442) accessed on 25/03/2014.

<sup>86</sup> The World Bank, Global Development Indicators, based on International Road Federation, World Road Statistics and electronic files, 2013: <http://data.worldbank.org/country/tajikistan> accessed on 24/11/2013.

country are in need of repair; this being a major priority of the government. By 2015, the national government is aiming to expand the share of quality roads in the country by 14 per cent.<sup>87</sup>

The construction of several key tunnel passes has decreased travel times between regional centres drastically, and new tunnels are under construction to reduce travel times between Dushanbe and the southern city of Kulob<sup>88</sup>, and between Dushanbe and the northern city of Khujand.<sup>89</sup>

Travelling within and throughout Tajikistan overland is possible through a variety of ways, including taxi and mini-buses.

Within cities, taxi services are regularly available, although the most common and cost-efficient methods of transportation include mini-buses (marshrutka), trolley buses, or shared cars which travel along the following pre-determined routes:

- Vodonasos Cement Factory, for taxis to the north: Varzob (TJS 5-10), Aini (TJS 60-70), Panjakent (TJS 100-120), Khujand (TJS 120-150),
- Sakhovat Bazaar, for taxis to the south: Qurghonteppa (TJS 30-40), Kulob (TJS 40-50),
- Dushanbe I Train Station, for taxis to the east: Kofarnihon (TJS 8-10), Faizobod (TJS 10-15),
- Avtobaza 2929 (Ahmed Donish Street, close to Dushanbe Airport), for taxis to Gorno-Badakhshan autonomous oblast: Khorog (TJS 400-500),
- Polytechnic Institute (Djami Avenue), for taxis to the west: Hissor (TJS 5-10).

#### 5.4.2. Air

Tajik Air is the national airline of the Republic of Tajikistan.<sup>90</sup> There are three airports in Tajikistan with international connections, the primary being the airport in the capital, Dushanbe. The two other international airports are in Khujand and Kulob. Most European and Asian destinations are covered weekly or bi-weekly, with the exception of flights to major Russian cities, which are typically daily.

#### International Airports

Airport	IATA Airport Code	Airlines	Destinations
Dushanbe	DYU	Aeroflot operated by Donavia	Sochi
		Aeroflot operated	St Petersburg

<sup>87</sup> Living Standards Improvement Strategy of Tajikistan for 2013-2015, 2013: [http://www.tj.undp.org/content/dam/tajikistan/docs/legal\\_framework/UNDP\\_TJK\\_MidTermReview\\_eng.pdf](http://www.tj.undp.org/content/dam/tajikistan/docs/legal_framework/UNDP_TJK_MidTermReview_eng.pdf), accessed on 22/05/2014.

<sup>88</sup> Center for Transport Strategies, 23 September 2013: Kitayskaya kompaniya postroila v Tadzshikistane 4-kilometrovyy avtomobilnyy tunnel, [http://cfts.org.ua/news/kitayskaya\\_kompaniya\\_postroila\\_v\\_tadzshikistane\\_4\\_kilometrovyy\\_avtotunnel\\_14849/](http://cfts.org.ua/news/kitayskaya_kompaniya_postroila_v_tadzshikistane_4_kilometrovyy_avtotunnel_14849/), accessed on 20/05/2014.

<sup>89</sup> Information Agency Asia Plus, 21 October 2012: E. Rakhmon otkryl tunnel "Shahristan" i zayavil, chto Tadzshikistan vyhodit iz kommunikatsionnogo tupika, <http://news.tj/ru/news/erakhmon-na-shakhristane-tadzshikistan-vykhodit-iz-kommunikatsionnogo-tupika> accessed on 20/05/2014.

<sup>90</sup> For further details please see official website of Tajik Air: <http://www.tajikair.tj> accessed on 24/11/2013.

		by Rossiya	
		Air Astana	Almaty
		Asia Airways	Sharjah
		Avia Traffic Company	Bishkek
		China Southern Airlines	Ürümqi
		East Air	Bishkek, Delhi
		Flydubai	Dubai
		Iran Aseman Airlines	Mashhad, Tehran-Imam Khomeini
		Kam Air	Kabul
		Kyrgyzstan Air Company	Bishkek
		NordStar	Krasnoyarsk-Yemelyanovo
		S7 Airlines	Chelyabinsk, Novosibirsk
		Somon Air	Almaty, Bishkek, Dubai, Frankfurt, Irkutsk, Istanbul-Atatürk, Jeddah, Kazan, Kiev-Boryspil, Krasnodar, Krasnoyarsk-Yemelyanovo, Moscow-Domodedovo, Orenburg, Simferopol, St Petersburg, Ürümqi
		Tajik Air	Almaty, Baku, Bishkek, Irkutsk, Istanbul-Atatürk, Khorugh, Khujand, Moscow-Domodedovo, Novosibirsk, St Petersburg, Samara, Sharjah, Sochi, Surgut, Ürümqi, Yekaterinburg
		Tatarstan Airlines	Kazan
		Turkish Airlines	Istanbul-Atatürk
		Ural Airlines	Chelyabinsk, Kazan, Krasnodar, Krasnoyarsk-Yemelyanovo, Nizhnekamsk, Perm, Samara, Ufa, Yekaterinburg
		UTair Aviation	Moscow-Vnukovo
		VIM Airlines	Moscow-Domodedovo, Sochi
		Yakutia Airlines	Irkutsk, Krasnodar, Mineralnye Vody
Khujand	LBD	Aeroflot operated by Donavia	Rostov-on-Don
		Aeroflot operated by Rossiya	St Petersburg
		China Southern Airlines	Ürümqi
		Kyrgyzstan Air Company	Bishkek
		Orenair	Orenburg
		S7 Airlines	Chelyabinsk, Moscow-Domodedovo, Novosibirsk
		Somon Air	Irkutsk, Kazan, Khanty-Mansiysk, Krasnodar, Krasnoyarsk-Yemelyanovo, Nizhnevartovsk, Novosibirsk, Orenburg, Sochi, St Petersburg, Tyumen, Yekaterinburg

		Tajik Air	Almaty, Bishkek, Dushanbe, Moscow-Domodedovo, Novosibirsk, St Petersburg, Surgut, Yekaterinburg
		Tatarstan Airlines	Kazan
		Ural Airlines	Kazan, Krasnoyarsk-Yemelyanovo, Nizhny Novgorod, Perm, Samara, Ufa, Yekaterinburg
		UTair Aviation	Nizhnevartovsk, Rostov-on-Don, Surgut, Tyumen
		VIM Airlines	Sochi
		Yakutia Airlines	Krasnodar
Kulob	TJU	East Air	Moscow-Domodedovo, Novosibirsk, St. Petersburg, Yekaterinburg
		Orenair	St. Petersburg
		S7 Airlines	Moscow-Domodedovo, Novosibirsk, Yekaterinburg
		Tajik Air	Moscow-Domodedovo, St Petersburg
		Ural Airlines	Moscow-Domodedovo, St Petersburg

There are also a number of national airports with connecting passenger flights within Tajikistan. These airports are located in the following cities: Ayni, Gharm, Isfara, Khorugh, Murghob, Panjakent, and Qurghonteppa.

Somon Air is the first private airline in Tajikistan, founded in 2008, with an office headquartered in Dushanbe. The airline operations are based at Dushanbe International Airport. It offers scheduled jet services primarily to Almaty, Dubai, Frankfurt, Istanbul, Urumqi, the Russian Federation and also operates domestically with flights to Khujand.<sup>91</sup>

#### 5.4.3. Train

On a tonnage basis, 50 per cent of Tajikistan's exports and imports rely on rail transportation. There are three major lines of the Tajik railway network in the north, south and central part of the country. The northern line provides in-transit freight transportation, whereas the central line is managing imported items and the southern line is used for limited transportation of freight. The railroads in the country are managed by the State Unitary Enterprise (SUE) the "Tajik Railway", which receives about USD 4.2 per freight ton-km and/or passenger-km, which is considered to be a high rate. Rail ridership is split equally between international and national services with a relatively small density of transit ridership.

#### Railways Profile<sup>92</sup>

Rail system	
Main rail lines (total route-km)	678
Rolling stock (km)	
Locomotives (quantity)	40
Wagons (quantity)	943

<sup>91</sup> Local time for each airport (Timetables are subject to change) are available here: [http://www.somonair.com/flight\\_schedule.php](http://www.somonair.com/flight_schedule.php) accessed on 20/05/2014.

<sup>92</sup> Tajik gateway, Zheleznye dorogi Tadjikistana, [http://www.tajik-gateway.org/wp/?page\\_id=30964](http://www.tajik-gateway.org/wp/?page_id=30964) accessed on 21/03/2014.

Passenger cars (quantity)	302
Railroad bridges (quantity)	216
Stations and terminals (quantity)	31
Railway network (in total/km)	943

Source: Ministry of Transport and Communications of the Republic of Tajikistan, 2009.

According to the Tajik Railway, 306 wagons, 15 passenger cars and four diesel-powered locomotives have been purchased in 2012. At the end of the year the inventory rolling stock of the Tajik Railway consisted of 2,199 wagons, 439 passenger cars and 59 diesel-powered locomotives.

Tajikistan's railway system is constrained by the steep topography preventing the rail network expansion in the country. Other limiting factors include: (i) limited in-country railway networks; (ii) the scarcity of locomotives; (iii) general depreciation of rolling stock, and (iv) heavy dependence on Uzbek and Turkmen railway systems, which explain why Tajik passengers prefer travelling by car.<sup>93</sup>

According to the Deputy Head of SUE Tajik Railway, the price for a ticket from Dushanbe to Moscow in a parlour car increased from TJS 1,130 (USD 230) in 2013 to TJS 1,358 (USD 270) since 15 February 2014. The train ticket price for travelling in a compartment coach to Moscow is estimated at TJS 1,700 (USD 340), compared with TJS 1,432 (USD 300) in previous years.

Passengers travel by train has drastically decreased as the number of air routes to the Russian Federation notably increased. In August 2013, the Tajik Railway reduced the number of trains to Moscow from five to three per week due to a decrease in passenger travel.

A train still runs to the Russian Federation once a week from Khujand to Moscow, while ridership from Khujand to Saratov and Dushanbe-Konibodom has been temporarily suspended. After the Amuzang (Uzbekistan) Railway Station's closure, the Tajik authorities stopped providing transit train services between Kulob and Qurghonteppa.<sup>94</sup>

## 5.5. Energy and Electricity

Access to energy in Tajikistan is a challenge to a significant portion of the population in Tajikistan. According to a report issued by Slavica Robić et al., 53 per cent of the population experienced "energy poverty" in 2007. Energy poverty is defined as a "Household's inability to afford and/or access the basic energy services [... such as] household lighting, household heating, household cooking."<sup>95</sup>

Power shortages are not uncommon in rural areas within the country. Power shortages in the winter occur because of limited power generation capacities of the hydropower dam located in Nurak, which is source of more than 60 per cent of the Tajik electricity.<sup>96</sup>

<sup>93</sup> Ibid.

<sup>94</sup> Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, 18.02.2014, \$270 za platskart. V Tadzhiqistane povysilis tseny na zheleznodorozhnye bilety, <http://rus.ozodi.org/content/article/25268255.html> accessed on 21/03/2014.

<sup>95</sup> Slavica Robić /Marina Olshanskaya/Rastislav Vrbensky/Zoran Morvaj, *Understanding Energy Poverty – Case Study: Tajikistan*, 2010, World Energy Conference, <http://www.worldenergy.org/documents/congresspapers/339.pdf> accessed on 23/11/2013.

<sup>96</sup> The World Bank, *Tajikistan's Winter Energy Crisis: Electricity Supply and Demand Alternatives*, November 2012, [http://siteresources.worldbank.org/ECAEXT/Resources/TAJ\\_winter\\_energy\\_27112012\\_Eng.pdf](http://siteresources.worldbank.org/ECAEXT/Resources/TAJ_winter_energy_27112012_Eng.pdf), page 18, accessed on 31/02/2014.

In the wintertime the water level in the reservoir decreases, because of the minor flow of the Vakhsh river, on which the reservoir is located. In the past the Tajik state power company, Barqi Tojik, used to buy electricity from neighbouring states in order to cover the shortage. However, in the recent years due to bad relationship with the Uzbek government, the access to electricity generated by neighbours remains limited. Rationing and limited services in recent years appeared during the winter months from November to March, including in 2013.<sup>97</sup> Services are not routinely limited in larger cities, although there are occasional outages.

Tajikistan produced 16.2 billion kWz of electricity in 2011 and consumed 13.3 billion kWz of energy in the same year.<sup>98</sup> The country's natural reserves suggest an energy production capacity of 300 billion kWz, through combined use of the country's hydro, solar, and other renewable energy capacities.

## 5.6. Water Supply

Improving widespread access to clean water remains a key development concern in Tajikistan. In 2012, a UN survey found that only 1/3 of residents throughout the country had access to chlorinated piped water. Another 30 per cent relied on spring water, while the remaining resorted to river and ditches.

The challenge with securing water supply is the lack of reliable energy sources throughout the country. Continuing from the UN report, "Although there has been an overall improvement since 2004 in the quality of drinking water, 15 per cent of samples do not meet bacteriological standards today."<sup>99</sup>

## 5.7. Agriculture

Despite the limited arable areas within the country, agriculture is a significant economic sector, resulting in more than half of the population's employment.<sup>100</sup>

The major cash crop grown is cotton. Tajikistan is the third biggest regional exporter of cotton after Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan. Cotton production amounts for 20 per cent of all sown acreage in Tajikistan. This corresponds to 16 per cent of Tajikistan's export.<sup>101</sup> Cotton production is followed by wheat. Other crops include rice, potatoes, other vegetables, and melons. Due to limited rainfall, irrigation – coming principally from snowfall and glacier melt in the high mountains – is essential for the agricultural sector.

Following the collapse of the Soviet Union, mid-sized peasant farms known as *dehkhans* became the primary land ownership structure in the country.

Livestock production in the country includes cattle, sheep, and goats.

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<sup>97</sup> Project Management Group for Energy Facilities under the President of Tajikistan, Electricity rationing introduced in rural areas of Tajikistan, Dushanbe 26 October 2013, [http://www.energyprojects.tj/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=645:electricity-rationing-introduced-in-rural-areas-of-tajikistan&catid=145:energetika-tadzhikistana&Itemid=683&lang=en](http://www.energyprojects.tj/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=645:electricity-rationing-introduced-in-rural-areas-of-tajikistan&catid=145:energetika-tadzhikistana&Itemid=683&lang=en) accessed on 23/11/2013.

<sup>98</sup> The World Bank, Global Development Indicators, based on International Energy Agency Statistics, Energy Statistics and Balances of Non-OECD Countries and OECD Countries, 2013, <http://data.worldbank.org/country/tajikistan> accessed on 24/11/2013.

<sup>99</sup> UN News Centre, 14 December 2012: *Tajikistan: UN review finds that access to clean water among most pressing environmental challenges*, <http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=43774&Cr=tajikistan&Cr1=#.Uplx5T6Hrc4> accessed on 23/11/2013.

<sup>100</sup> The World Bank, Global Development Indicators, based on International Labour Organization, Key Indicators of the Labour Market database, 2013, <http://data.worldbank.org/country/tajikistan> accessed on 24/11/2013.

<sup>101</sup> IOM, *Children and Students Participation in Tajikistan's cotton harvest -Annual Assessment 2012, 2013*, <http://www.iom.tj/files/cotton13eng.pdf>, page 8, accessed on 31/03/2014.

## 5.8. Drought

Droughts are a major concern in Tajikistan, with its impacts heavily influencing food security among the poorer segments of the population. Ground air temperatures are increasing in most parts of the country. However, droughts affect in particular Southern parts of Tajikistan, as over the last 60 years these regions experienced an increase in average air temperature of about 1 degree C. Oxfam reported in 2010 that the number of droughts and days with extreme temperatures are increasing, as a result of global warming. It is predicted that in future “droughts will likely be more intense and frequent.”<sup>102</sup>

Additionally, since Tajikistan is located in high attitude zones, the increase in air temperature has implications for Tajikistan's glaciers and as a consequence in water resources.

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<sup>102</sup> Oxfam International, *Reaching Tipping Point? Climate Change and Poverty in Tajikistan*, December 2009, <http://www.oxfam.org/sites/www.oxfam.org/files/tipping-point-climate-poverty-tajikistan.pdf> accessed on 23/11/2013.

## 6. SOCIOECONOMIC SITUATION

### 6.1. General Information

#### 6.1.1. Human Development Index

The Human Development Index (HDI) defines well-being and provides a combined determination of three dimensions of human development: education, health and income.

According to the “Human Development Report 2013” published by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), in 2012, Tajikistan’s Human Development Index (HDI) score (0.622 in 2012) is in the middle human development category, placing the country at rank 125 out of 187 countries. With regard to HDI value, it has slightly increased from 0.615 in 1990 to 0.622 in 2012.

In the course of 1980 – 2012, life expectancy at birth increased by over five years (to 67.8), mean years of schooling by almost three years (to 9.8), expected years of schooling decreased by 0.4 years (to 11.5), and gross national income per capita by 33 per cent in the period between 1985 and 2012.<sup>103</sup>

#### 6.1.2. Population Below Poverty Line

Tajikistan is the former Soviet Union’s poorest successor state, with 28 per cent of the population in 2009 living on less than USD 2 per day and 7 per cent living on less than USD 1.25 per day at purchasing power parity (PPP).<sup>104</sup>

According to Tajikistan’s Living Standards Improvement Strategy for 2013-2015, which was published in 2013, the poverty rate is estimated at 38 per cent in the country, compared with 46.7 per cent in 2009.<sup>105</sup>

Poverty primarily declined as a result of migrant remittances reaching nearly USD 3.6 billion per annum in 2012, accounting for more than 40 per cent of the national GDP. The economic growth has reached 7.5 per cent per annum in 2012 and GDP per capita expressed in USD increased from USD 628 in 2009 to USD 958 in 2012.<sup>106</sup>

Tajikistan’s gross national income (GNI) per capita in 2012 was USD 2,180 compared to USD 1,800 in 2009.<sup>107</sup>

#### 6.1.3. Availability of Basic Commodities

One major concern in the public discourse of Tajikistan is the steady increase of consumer prices over the last years. The Government of Tajikistan introduces price control on a range of basic food commodities whenever the prices soar substantially in the local markets to prevent any speculative activity by farmers and retailers. According to the Customs Service under the Government of Tajikistan, the scene of the 11 January 2014 armed conflict along the Tajik-Kyrgyz border might be one of the reasons why the local prices of many food commodities increased so sharply.<sup>108</sup>

<sup>103</sup> UNDP, *Explanatory Note on 2013 HDR Composite Indices*, <http://hdrstats.undp.org/images/explanations/TJK.pdf> accessed on 17/12/2013.

<sup>104</sup> The World Bank, World Development Indicators, <http://data.worldbank.org/country/tajikistan> accessed on 22/12/2013.

<sup>105</sup> Republic of Tajikistan, *Living Standards Improvement Strategy of Tajikistan for 2013-2015*, 2013, approved by regulation of Majlisi namoyandagon Majlisi Oli of the Republic of Tajikistan on 26 December, 2012 under No 1030, [http://www.undp.tj/files/reports/LIS\\_2013-2015\\_ENG.pdf](http://www.undp.tj/files/reports/LIS_2013-2015_ENG.pdf) accessed on 22/12/2013.

<sup>106</sup> National Bank of Tajikistan, Banking Statistics Bulletin, September 2013, Table 1, page 9.

<sup>107</sup> The World Bank, International Comparison Program database, 2013: <http://databank.worldbank.org/data/views/reports/tableview.aspx> accessed on 22/12/2013.

<sup>108</sup> ASIA-Plus Online Newspaper, Na stolichnyh rynkah podorozhali produkty pitaniya, 25 November 2013, <http://www.news.tj/ru/news/na-stolichnykh-rynках-podorozhali-produkty-pitaniya>, accessed on 21/01/2014.

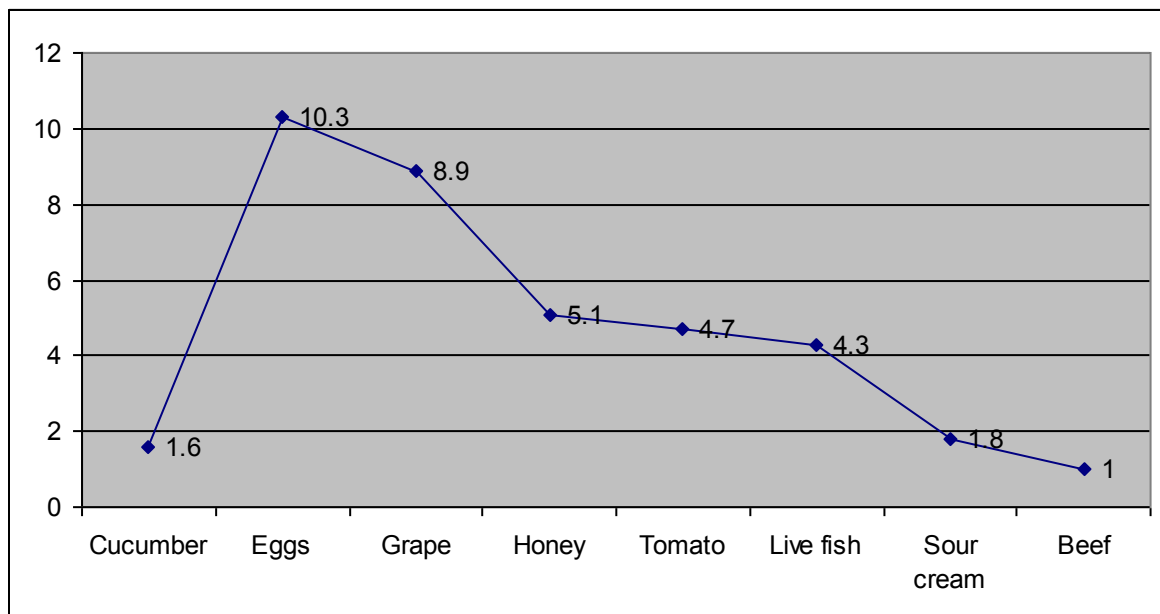
One returned migrant said that the prices of some food items in Tajikistan are higher than in the Russian Federation and:

*It is difficult to ensure the wellbeing of my family as the prices spiked and goods are stuck at the border. And those who have the most reason to be concerned as always are the civilians.*<sup>109</sup>

The reasons behind high local market rates for basic commodities are constantly reflected in mass media and discussed by experts and analysts. Standard explanations of experts and economists attribute the issue of high prices to increases observed in the international markets. One private importer noted:

*The price level of 1 ton of light wheat flour imported into Tajikistan at its border is estimated at USD 350-USD 360. This value also includes the transportation costs of bringing the commodity from the border to the Tajik markets, customs duties and 18 per cent of a value added tax (VAT). In other words one sack of flour on average will cost TJS 100-110, which also includes a seller's price increase on top of it. So, is there a way of selling it to consumers for TJS 90?*<sup>110</sup>

In October 2013 as compared to September 2013 prices on the following food items have considerably increased, (% points increase):<sup>111</sup>



Source: Agency on Statistics under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan.

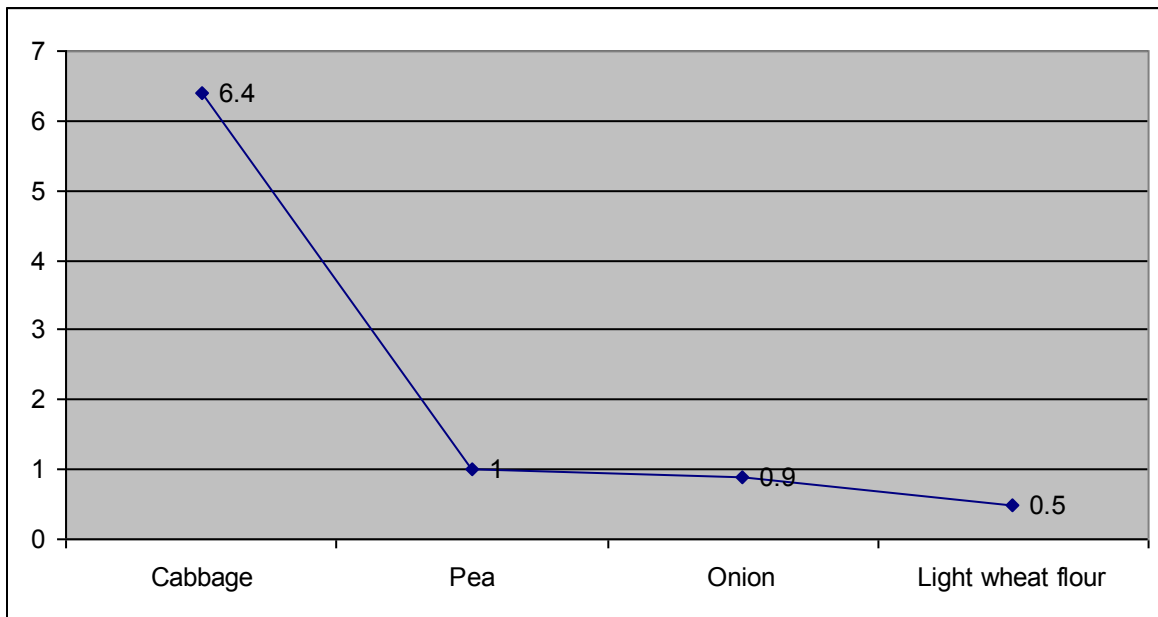
In contrast, over the same period, prices on the following food items have decreased, (% points decrease):<sup>112</sup>

<sup>109</sup> Ibid.

<sup>110</sup> Central Asia Online, V Tadjikistane rastut tseny na produkty pitaniya: Pokupateli nedovolny, 31 August 2010: <http://centralasiaonline.com/ru/articles/caii/features/main/2010/08/31/feature-01>, accessed on 21/01/2014.

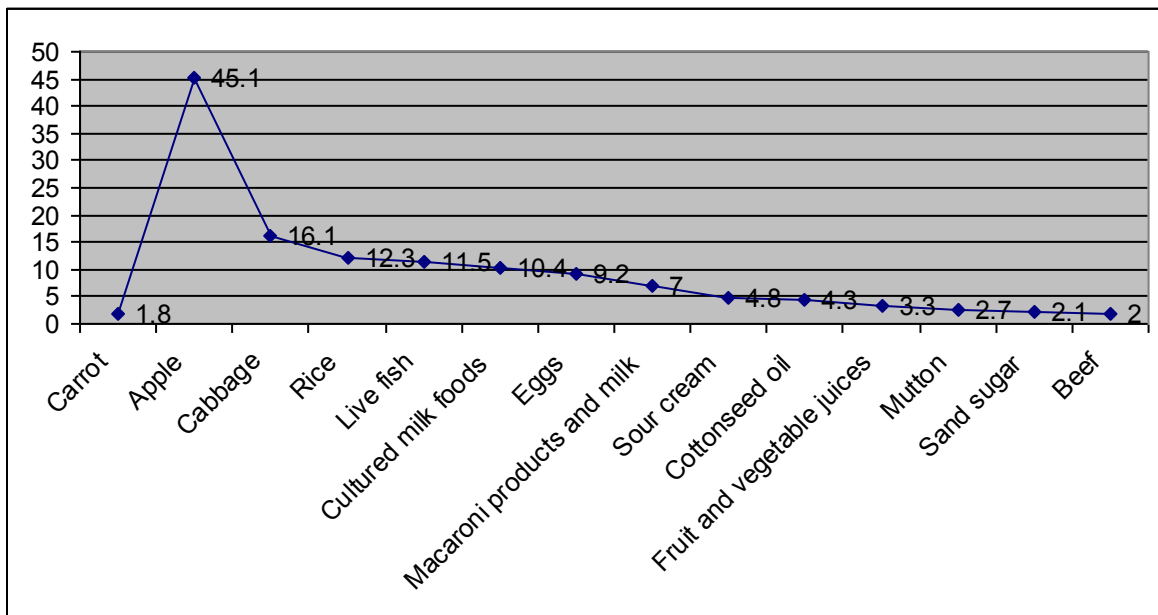
<sup>111</sup> Agency on Statistics under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan, Socio-Economic Condition in the Republic of Tajikistan, 2013, page 187.

<sup>112</sup> Ibid, page 188.



Source: Agency on Statistics under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan.

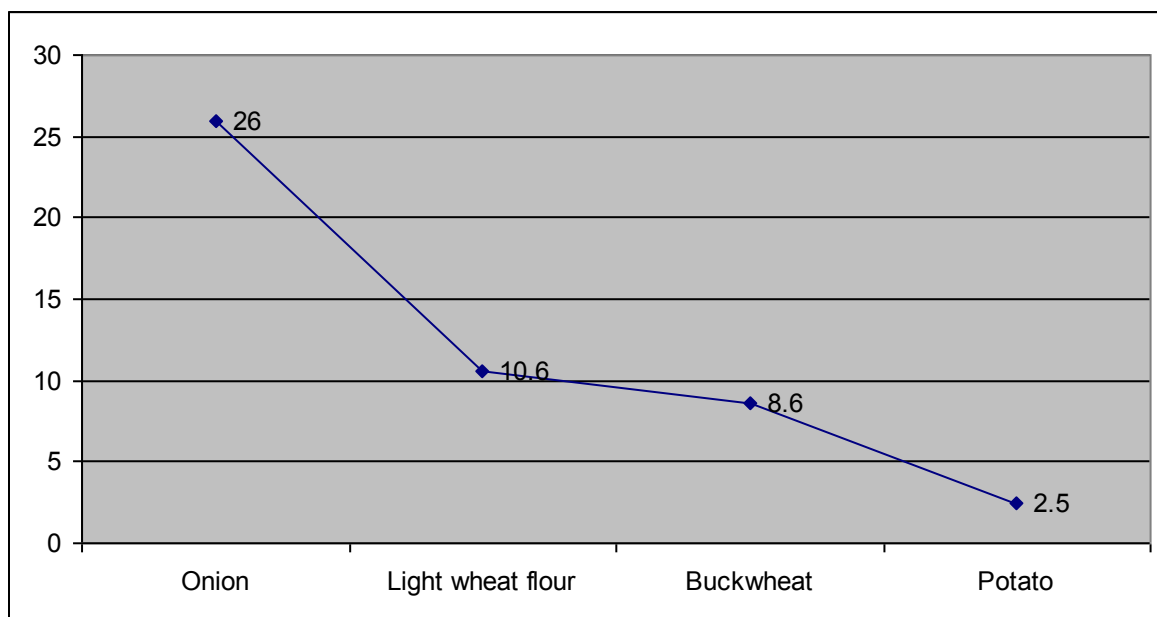
In January 2013 as compared to December 2012 prices on the following food items have substantially increased (% points increase):



Source: Agency on Statistics under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan.

Over the same period, prices on the following food items have declined, (% points decrease):<sup>113</sup>

<sup>113</sup> Ibid, page 188.



Source: Agency on Statistics under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan.

The average food price index in the consumer's sector of the country is as follows:

*End of Period, in TJS and dirams per kilogram, litre, unit.*<sup>114</sup>

	2012			2013				
	Oct	Dec	Jan	Mar	May	Jul	Sep	Oct
Beef	30,22	30,24	30,24	30,37	30,37	30,07	30,52	30,81
Butter	26,15	26,16	26,45	26,46	26,53	26,72	26,79	26,96
Cottonseed oil	7,99	7,92	7,83	8,07	8,32	8,11	8,27	8,27
Milk	2,91	3,11	3,55	3,39	2,98	3,15	3,26	3,26
Eggs (10 pcs)	6,56	6,86	7,33	6,97	6,29	5,93	6,79	7,49
Sand sugar	5,13	5,10	5,10	5,13	5,18	5,12	5,21	5,21
Salt	0,78	0,79	0,79	0,79	0,79	0,79	0,79	0,81
Light wheat flour	3,23	3,20	3,18	3,15	2,93	2,86	2,87	2,86
White bread	3,11	3,11	3,11	3,11	3,11	3,11	3,11	3,11
Rice	6,48	6,35	6,31	6,33	6,47	6,60	7,13	7,13
Potato	2,10	2,24	2,37	2,30	2,15	1,93	2,06	2,06
Onion	1,42	1,56	1,67	1,90	1,67	0,99	1,12	1,11
Carrot	1,60	1,06	1,03	0,89	1,62	2,23	1,86	1,86
Apple	3,92	4,55	4,68	5,18	6,55	6,22	6,46	6,46

Source: Agency on Statistics under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan.

In January-September 2013, the population expenditures and savings are estimated at TJS 20,623.5 million. The population spent 52.6 per cent of the total expenditures and savings for buying goods and services and 25.2 per cent for various mandatory payments and voluntary contributions respectively. The real earnings of the population (exclusive of mandatory payments, adjusted to a consumer price index) have increased by 10.4 per cent in the period January-September 2013 compared to the same period in 2012.<sup>115</sup>

<sup>114</sup> Ibid, page 188.

<sup>115</sup> Agency on Statistics under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan, Socioeconomic Condition in the Republic of Tajikistan, 2013, page 210.

## 6.2. Social System

### 6.2.1. General Information

In 1998, a concept of reforming the social welfare system for the period 1999-2030 was adopted in Tajikistan and consequently the Implementation Programme was approved in 1999. In order to maximize the impact of the Programme, the measures aimed at creating a legal framework and introducing changes and amendments to the existing laws on pension benefits, social protection of people with disabilities, veterans, state social insurance as well as developing a series of programmes on targeted social assistance and protection of elderly people have been envisaged by the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection of the Population (MLSPP).

In April 2014, the World Bank Group has published a comprehensive analysis "Tajikistan Partnership Program Snapshot" on the efficiency of targeting benefits to the poorest strata of the society compared to the standard government social assistance programmes.<sup>116</sup> The aim of the analysis is to provide further support to the government in streamlining its social protection system. The key findings from the analysis on the impact of social assistance in piloted districts show: (i) enhanced people's self-esteem and life-satisfaction and improved perception of financial situation; (ii) improved food safety perceptions and increased consumption of food products; (iii) 20 per cent increase in the number of working adults; (iv) reduced paid and unpaid child labour (25%). To accomplish the task and support the pilot programme aimed at assisting 20 per cent of the most socially vulnerable households in Yovon and Istravshan districts<sup>117</sup> in January 2011, the World Bank together with the EU mobilized up to USD 5.4 million through various granting schemes. Some of the amount was also utilized for the design and introduction of a national electronic registry with the intent of providing targeted social assistance to the most marginalized groups.<sup>118</sup>

On 19 November 2013, the President of Tajikistan signed the Decree "On improving the executive branch of the government of the Republic of Tajikistan." In line with the Decree, the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection of the Population (MLSPP) was converted into the Ministry of Labour, Migration, and Population Employment (MLMPE). Thus, the MLSPP's functions on social protection were separated and transferred to the Ministry of Health and Social Protection of the Population (MHSP).<sup>119</sup> Prior to restructuring, the MLSPP was mandated to deal with the implementation of the state policy as well as normative and legal regulation in the field of labour, employment, adult education, migration, social insurance, and social protection of the population.

#### Public social expenditure as a percentage of GDP<sup>120</sup>

Year(s)	%
2000	2.74
2001	n.a.
2002	n.a.
2003	0.2

<sup>116</sup> The World Bank Group, *Tajikistan Partnership Program Snapshot*, April 2014, <http://www.worldbank.org/content/dam/Worldbank/document/Tajikistan-Snapshot.pdf>, page 7, accessed on 15/05/2014.

<sup>117</sup> The Government of Tajikistan expanded the pilot of targeted social assistance from two to 10 districts in 2013.

<sup>118</sup> The World Bank Group, *Tajikistan Partnership Program Snapshot*, April 2014: <http://www.worldbank.org/content/dam/Worldbank/document/Tajikistan-Snapshot.pdf>, pages 6-7, accessed on 15/05/2014.

<sup>119</sup> Official website of the President of Tajikistan, 19 November 2013, Ukaz Prezidenta Respubliki Tadjikistan ot 19 noyabrya 2013 goda, # 12 "O sovershenstvovanii struktury ispolnitelnyh organov gosudarstvennoi vlasti Respubliki Tadjikistan", <http://president.tj/ru/node/5654> accessed on 20/01/2014.

<sup>120</sup> International Labour Organization, Social Security Department, Total public social expenditure as a percentage of GDP, [http://www.ilo.org/dyn/ilossi/ssiindic.viewMultiIndic?p\\_lang=en&p\\_indicator\\_code=E-1c&p\\_geoaid=762](http://www.ilo.org/dyn/ilossi/ssiindic.viewMultiIndic?p_lang=en&p_indicator_code=E-1c&p_geoaid=762) accessed on 10/04/2014.

2004	0.9
2005	4.37
2006	n.a.
2007	n.a.
2008	1.0
2009	1.2
2010	4.92
2011	5.31
2012	6.75

Source: International Labour Organization.

The main challenge is that the social benefits in Tajikistan are very small and impacts on poverty are quite modest.<sup>121</sup> The country is still unable to leverage social protection in case of economic or a variety of crises as there are no existent safety net programmes.<sup>122</sup> Tajikistan's social protection system is primarily dominated by old-age and disability pension with little social assistance spending, which accounted for 0.58 per cent<sup>123</sup> of GDP<sup>124</sup> and considered to be the lowest in the Europe and Central Asia (ECA) Region.<sup>125</sup> An effort to introduce a unified social assistance programme offering poverty-targeted cash transfers can, as many experts believe, improve the situation and provide targeted assistance to the most underprivileged groups.<sup>126</sup> Such programs are currently being piloted and implemented much more commonly now by the World Bank in Yovon and Istaravshan districts of Tajikistan.<sup>127</sup>

### 6.2.2. Average Wage and Minimum Wage

The average monthly wage in September 2013 was TJS 718.70 (USD 151), increasing by 12.8 and 20.1 per cent compared with August 2013 and September 2012 respectively. Within the period from January to September 2013, the average monthly wage was TJS 671.95 (USD 141), increasing by 27.9 per cent compared with the same period in 2012. Tajikistan's real minimum wage<sup>128</sup> as of September 2013 set to TJS 250 (USD 52.44).<sup>129</sup>

### 6.2.3. Family Benefits

Parents can claim the following types of family benefits at the birth of a child:

- one-time childbirth benefit
- monthly child care benefit

<sup>121</sup> ASIA-PLUS Online Newspaper, Tajikistan's pension system and assistance programs are not effective tools to reduce poverty, 13 December 2014, <http://news.tj/en/news/tajikistan-s-pension-system-and-assistance-programs-are-not-effective-tools-reduce-poverty> accessed on 20/05/2014.

<sup>122</sup> SP Discussion Paper No. 1118, *Assessing Safety Net Readiness in Response to Food Price Volatility*, September 2011, <http://siteresources.worldbank.org/SOCIALPROTECTION/Resources/SP-Discussion-papers/Safety-Nets-DP/1118.pdf>, page 13, accessed on 20/05/2014.

<sup>123</sup> The World Bank, *Redistribution and Transfers in Europe and Central Asia (ECA)*, Broad Brush Impressions from a Full-Color Palette, Kathy Lindert, June 2013, <http://www.worldbank.org/content/dam/Worldbank/document/Poverty%20documents/Kathy%20Lindert.pdf> accessed on 20/05/2014.

<sup>124</sup> The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, *Strategy for Tajikistan*, March 2012, <http://www.ebrd.com/downloads/country/strategy/tajikistan.pdf> accessed on 20/05/2014.

<sup>125</sup> The World Bank Group, *Tajikistan Partnership Program Snapshot*, April 2014, <http://www.worldbank.org/content/dam/Worldbank/document/Tajikistan-Snapshot.pdf> accessed on 20/05/2014.

<sup>126</sup> ASIA-PLUS Online Newspaper, Tajikistan's pension system and assistance programs are not effective tools to reduce poverty, 13 December 2014, <http://news.tj/en/news/tajikistan-s-pension-system-and-assistance-programs-are-not-effective-tools-reduce-poverty> accessed on 20/05/2014.

<sup>127</sup> The World Bank Group, *Tajikistan Partnership Program Snapshot*, April 2014, <http://www.worldbank.org/content/dam/Worldbank/document/Tajikistan-Snapshot.pdf> accessed on 23/05/2014.

<sup>128</sup> Minimum wage is the lowest remuneration which an employer may pay to a legally employed worker.

<sup>129</sup> Agency on Statistics under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan, *Socio-Economic Condition in the Republic of Tajikistan*, 2013, page 210.

One-time childbirth benefit is paid at the rate of TJS 120 after the birth of the first child, TJS 80 after the second and TJS 40 after the third and more children respectively. The benefit is paid at a parent's work (study) place. If both parents are unemployed the benefit is paid at their home place by departments for social protection of the population under the Ministry of Health. The benefit is assigned and paid from the child's birth in case if a claim is submitted not later than six months after the birth of the child.

### **Monthly Child Care Benefit**

A woman on maternity leave is entitled to a monthly benefit until her child turns one year and a half, if at least one parent is legally employed. The child care benefit is paid by the work place from social insurance funds in the amount of TJS 40 per month.<sup>130</sup>

### **6.2.4. Maternity Allowance**

According to the law on social insurance, maternity allowance is paid during the whole period of woman's absence from work, since the day of birth of a child, regardless of how long the absence is. Maternity allowance amounts to the whole salary of the woman before her absence from work.<sup>131</sup> 100 per cent of earnings is paid for 70 days before and 70 days after the expected date of childbirth (86 days for a difficult childbirth; 110 days for multiple births).

### **6.2.5. Temporary Disability Benefits**

According to the law on social insurance<sup>132</sup>, temporary disability benefits are paid in the event of employment-related illnesses and injuries and to employed persons who require personal care or assistance because of non-employment-related illnesses. It is paid at the following rates and conditions:

100 per cent of average wage is paid to persons with:

- employment-related illnesses or injuries;
- eight and more years of continuous employment;
- three and more dependents and students under the age of 15 and 18 respectively;
- participants of the Great Patriotic War;
- people evacuated or relocated from radioactive contamination zones and ecologically poisonous environments, persons with diseases of blood-forming organs (acute leukemia), thyroid adenoma and cancer.

80 per cent of average wage is paid to persons with:

- 5 to 8 years of a continuous service;
- orphans under the age of 23.

60 per cent of average wage to persons:

- up to 5 years of a continuous service.

<sup>130</sup> U.S. Social Security Administration, *Social Security Programmes Throughout the World: Asia and The Pacific*, 2012, <http://www.ssa.gov/policy/docs/progdesc/ssptw/2012-2013/asia/tajikistan.html> accessed on 16/05/2014.

<sup>131</sup> Zakon Respubliki Tadjikistana s 16. February 2012r., #824 "O gosudarstvennom social'nom strahovanii", art. 13, [http://www.mmk.tj/ru/library/o\\_gosudarstvennom\\_socialnom\\_strahovanii.doc](http://www.mmk.tj/ru/library/o_gosudarstvennom_socialnom_strahovanii.doc) accessed on 07/04/2014.

<sup>132</sup> Ibid.

An employee is also entitled to receive benefits if a short-term sickness or disability resulted from occupational accidents that occurred before, during, or after return from work and even in case of quitting a job. The benefits are paid until the individual recovers from illness or injury for not more than four months, and in case of tuberculosis for not more than a year. After the payment period for sickness benefit is expired, the individual is referred to the State service for medical assessment to determine his disability status.

Short-term disability benefits are provided on the basis of having a medical certificate provided by a claimant's physician. If the certificate is lost the benefits are paid using its copy. To determine the size of benefit, the length of service is calculated on the day of being incapable of work in accordance with the state rules and regulations on social insurance being approved by the Government of Tajikistan. The eligibility requirements and the order of benefits payment to public service employees are determined by normative and legal acts of the Republic of Tajikistan. Insured persons from among private entrepreneurs have the right to receive temporary disability benefits. The benefits are paid after these individuals present a social insurance declaration.<sup>133</sup>

#### **6.2.6. Funeral Benefits**

Funeral Benefits are paid upon an insured person's death and also paid in the case of an insured person's dependent's death. The amount paid is TJS 700. The order of payment and terms are decided by the government.

Insured persons working for private entrepreneurs are entitled to receive short-term incapacity benefits, maternity allowance, family and funeral benefits. These payments are made by the authorized body determined by the government.

Tajik citizens working abroad are also entitled to receive benefits subject to payment of insurance premium by their employers (insurers) in accordance with the existing law, and/or bi- and multilateral interstate agreements on social and pension insurance of citizens of the states, which signed the mentioned agreements or if these persons pay social security tax on their own in the order and amount decided by the government.<sup>134</sup>

#### **6.2.7. Pension System<sup>135</sup>**

##### Coverage

Social insurance: All employed and self-employed persons.

Social assistance: Persons not eligible for benefits under social insurance.

##### Source of funds

Insured person: 1 per cent of earnings.

Self-employed persons: 20 per cent of declared income; a flat-rate contribution of TJS 15 for certain categories of self-employed.

Employer: 25 per cent of payroll.

##### Government contribution

Social insurance: None; contributes as an employer.

Social assistance: Provides partial subsidies; local authorities may provide supplementary benefits from their own budgets.

<sup>133</sup> Ministry of Labor and Social Protection of the Population of the Republic of Tajikistan, Materialy. Vidy I razmery gosudarstvennyh posobiy sotsialnogo strahovaniya, undated, [http://mehnat.tj/index.php/ru/?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=53&catid=11&lang=ru](http://mehnat.tj/index.php/ru/?option=com_content&view=article&id=53&catid=11&lang=ru) accessed on 21/01/2014.

<sup>134</sup> Ministry of Labor and Social Protection of the Population of the Republic of Tajikistan. Materialy. Vidy I razmery gosudarstvennyh posobiy sotsialnogo strahovaniya, undated, [http://mehnat.tj/index.php/ru/?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=53&catid=11&lang=ru](http://mehnat.tj/index.php/ru/?option=com_content&view=article&id=53&catid=11&lang=ru) accessed on 21/01/2014.

<sup>135</sup> Ministry of Labor and Social Protection of the Population of the Republic of Tajikistan. Materialy. Pensiya, undated, <http://mehnat.tj/index.php/ru/component/content/article/11-faq-ru/54-pensiya> accessed on 16/05/2014.

### **Old Age Pension – Social Insurance**

Qualifying condition: Age 63 with at least 25 years of covered employment (men) or age 58 with at least 20 years of covered employment (women); the age and number of years of covered employment required for a full pension are reduced for mothers with five or more children or children with disabilities. A minimum pension is paid for insured persons with at least five years of covered employment.

Entitlement: 55 per cent of the insured's average earnings in the last two years before retirement is paid, plus 1 per cent for each year of covered employment exceeding 25 years (men) or 20 years (women), up to 80 per cent.

- The minimum pension is TJS 80 a month.
- The maximum pension is TJS 520 a month (August 2012).

### **Old Age Pension – Social Assistance**

Qualifying condition: Age 65 (men) or age 60 (women) and not eligible for the old-age pension (social insurance).

Entitlement: 50 per cent of the minimum old-age pension is paid a month.

### **Disability Pension – Social Insurance**

Qualifying condition: Paid according to three groups of assessed disability: Group I (total disability, incapacity for any work, and requires constant care); Group II (disability, reduced working capacity, and occasionally requires care); and Group III (disability and reduced working capacity).

Eligible persons include persons disabled while in military service, children younger than age 16 with disabilities, and persons with disabilities since childhood.

Constant-attendance allowance: Paid to persons with Group I and II visual impairments.

Dependent's supplement: Paid to persons with Group I and II disabilities for nonworking dependents.

A territorial or state medical service under the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection assesses the degree of disability.

Entitlement:

- 10 times the minimum old-age pension is paid for a Group I disability;
- 8 times for a Group II disability; and
- 6 times for a Group III disability.

Dependent's supplement (Groups I and II):

- 50 per cent of a basic amount is paid a month for each eligible dependent.

### **Disability Pension – Social Assistance**

Qualifying condition: Paid to persons with disabilities who are not eligible for the disability pension (social insurance) if the disability began after childhood or for children younger than age 16 with disabilities.

Entitlement:

- At least 100 per cent (Group I) and 50 per cent (Group II) of a basic amount is paid a month.

### **Survivor Pension – Social Insurance and Social Assistance**

Qualifying condition: Paid to the family of the dead person (widows and orphaned children who were financially dependent on the dead family member) regardless of whether the deceased was insured.

Entitlement: 50 per cent of the deceased's earnings but not less than 50 per cent of minimum old-age pension is paid for each eligible survivor.

- The minimum pension is TJS 104.

### 6.2.8. Links and Contacts

#### **The Executive Office of the President of the Republic of Tajikistan**

734023, Dushanbe city, Rudaki Avenue, 80  
Tel.: (+992 37) 221 68 00; Fax: (+992 37) 221 25 20  
Website: [www.president.tj](http://www.president.tj)

#### **The Ministry of Labour, Migration, and Population Employment of the Republic of Tajikistan**

734026, Dushanbe city, Navoi Street, 5/2  
Tel.: (+992 37) 235 03 84  
Website: [www.mehnat.tj](http://www.mehnat.tj)

#### **The Agency on Statistics under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan**

734025, Dushanbe city, Bokhtar Street, 17  
Tel.: (+992 37) 223 02 45; Fax: (+992 37) 221 43 75  
E-mail: [stat@tojikiston.com](mailto:stat@tojikiston.com)  
Website: [www.stat.tj](http://www.stat.tj)

#### **The National Bank of Tajikistan**

734003, Dushanbe city, Rudaki Avenue, 107 A  
Tel.: (+992 44) 600 32 27; Fax: (+992 44) 600 32 55  
E-mail: [info@nbt.tj](mailto:info@nbt.tj)  
Website: [www.nbt.tj](http://www.nbt.tj)

## 6.3. Housing

Privatization of the prior centralized housing system in Tajikistan took place from 1992 to 2010 according to the 1995 Law on Housing Privatization. Since then housing construction is primarily market driven, which also includes unauthorized constructions in the country.<sup>136</sup> According to the Tajik National Development Strategy there is no information available about the demand for public housing, as well as the housing shortage. And the large proportion of the population is unable to meet its housing needs given the low income level, as well as absence of government sponsored housing projects.<sup>137</sup>

The Agency for Construction and Architecture is responsible for the implementation of the State policy on Architecture, Urban Development and Construction, the master plans for city and provincial constructions are approved by the government officials.<sup>138</sup>

High population density along with a high birth rate decreased the per capita floor area from 9.4 square meters in 1998 to 8.6 square meters in 2008, which is the lowest in the Post Soviet area.<sup>139</sup> The average floor area per person in 2012 versus the 2008 estimates is 8.5

<sup>136</sup> UNECE, *Housing Conditions, Housing Construction and Public Utility*, Chapter 2, 13 December 2011, <http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/hlm/prgm/cph/countries/tajikistan/cp.tajikistan.chap2.pdf> page 17, accessed on 11/25/2013.

<sup>137</sup> National Development Strategy of the Republic of Tajikistan for the period of 2015, Expansion of Access to Water Supply, Sanitation and Housing and Municipal Services. 7.5.1. Core Problems.

<sup>138</sup> UNECE, *Urban planning and development*, Chapter 4, 13 December 2011, <http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/hlm/prgm/cph/countries/tajikistan/cp.tajikistan.chap4.pdf> page 41, accessed on 11/26/2013.

<sup>139</sup> UNECE, *Housing Conditions, Housing Construction and Public Utility*, Chapter 2, 13 December 2011, <http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/hlm/prgm/cph/countries/tajikistan/cp.tajikistan.chap2.pdf> page 17, accessed on 11/26/2013.

square meters.<sup>140</sup> According to research conducted by the Consumer Union of Tajikistan a sizable proportion of the housing assets are not properly maintained because of the rapid privatization efforts and changes in maintenance policies. The situation did not improve after the adoption of a new law in 2009 “About maintenance of the multi-storeyed buildings and association of apartment’s owners.”<sup>141</sup>

### 6.3.1. Prices for Rent

#### Prices for Renting in Dushanbe and Outside<sup>142</sup>

Rent Per Month	Average (TJS)	Range (TJS)
Apartment (1 bedroom) in City Centre	1,625.00	1,000.00- 2,250.00
Apartment (1 bedroom) Outside of Centre	492.49	484.98- 500.00
Apartment (3 bedrooms) in City Centre	4,000.00	3,000.00- 5,000.00
Apartment (3 bedrooms) Outside of Centre	1,712.45	1,000.00- 2,424.90

### 6.3.2. Links and Contacts

#### The State Committee for Construction and Architecture under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan

734025, Dushanbe city, Huseinzade Street, 36  
Tel.: (+992 37) 2218853; 2218833; 2231882; 2216143

#### Real Estate Agency “Cityhomes”

Dushanbe, Rudaki Str. 105  
Tel.: (+992 37) 224 16 16; 224 01 24; (+992 91) 925 25 25  
E-mail: [cityhomes@mail.ru](mailto:cityhomes@mail.ru)  
Website: <http://cityhomes.tj>

#### Real Estate Agency “Elit Stroi Service”

Dushanbe, Kaharov Str. 71  
Tel.: (+992 37) 881 83 38; (+992 91) 877 03 03  
E-mail: [info@ess.tj](mailto:info@ess.tj)  
Website: <http://ess.tj>

#### Real Estate Agency “Maskan”

Dushanbe, Rudaki Str. 38/1  
Tel.: (+992 90) 161 03 03; (+992 44) 620 27 11  
E-mail: [info@maskan.tj](mailto:info@maskan.tj)  
Website: <http://maskan.tj>

#### Real Estate Agency “Saad”

<sup>140</sup> UNECE, *Country Profiles on the Housing Sector Tajikistan*, September 2012, [http://www.uncece.org/fileadmin/DAM/hlm/sessions/docs2012/presentations/item7a.1.safarov.cp\\_tajikistan.pdf](http://www.uncece.org/fileadmin/DAM/hlm/sessions/docs2012/presentations/item7a.1.safarov.cp_tajikistan.pdf) page 5, accessed on 10/04/2014.

<sup>141</sup> Consumer Union of Tajikistan, 12 September 2011: <http://tajikngo.centreict.net/en/ngo-info/item/1527-soyuz-potrebiteley-tadzhikistana-schitaet-reformu-upravleniya-mnogokvartirnyimi-domami-poka-nesostoyavsheysya.html> accessed on 11/26/2013.

<sup>142</sup> NUMBEO, Property Prices in Dushanbe, Tajikistan [http://www.numbeo.com/property-investment/city\\_result.jsp?country=Tajikistan&city=Dushanbe](http://www.numbeo.com/property-investment/city_result.jsp?country=Tajikistan&city=Dushanbe) accessed on 08/04/2014.

## 6.4. Education

### 6.4.1. General Introduction

According to the National Development Strategy of Tajikistan there is a need to improve the management of the education sphere in order to address the existing problems of access to quality education, as well as the gender gap in the field. The sector lacks adequate statistics, organization and infrastructure, as well as an adequate evaluation of performance.<sup>143</sup> The result is shortage of educational materials and textbooks, poor quality of education, a mismatch between training and market demands, and an acute shortage of teachers, who also are underpaid.<sup>144</sup>

In 2011 Tajikistan allocated 5.7 per cent of its GDP on education needs.<sup>145</sup> For comparison, the government spent about 8.9 per cent of the GDP on education in 1991.<sup>146</sup> According to UNICEF data, around 70 per cent of the budget allocation for education sector is spent on labour resources, which does not allow for investment in educational infrastructure and materials.<sup>147</sup> To address the issues the government adapted the National Strategy for Development of Education (2006-2015) in order to improve access, management, infrastructure, and quality of education, however, the prospects for improvements in the sector remain bleak.

There are 3,813 general education schools out of which 3,805 constitute day-time schools. There are 11 schools for children with mental and physical disabilities and eight evening schools in the country.

The ratio of teachers and pupils in general education schools was 97.700 to 1,714,000 in 2012.<sup>148</sup>

School enrolment rates are high, and enrolment ratio is estimated at 97 per cent.<sup>149</sup> However, in secondary education level the gender gap is also increasing.<sup>150</sup> The country has 67 vocational training institutions and 50 specialized secondary educational institutions.<sup>151</sup>

The 2011-2015 State Vocational Education Development Programme, which forms a part of the country's social system, is also implemented as a strategy for effective use of labour resources. The Adult Training Centre (ATC) was established in accordance with the Government's decree in 2008. It has four branches in Qurghonteppa, Kulob, Konibodom and

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<sup>143</sup> National Development Strategy of Tajikistan, 2006, page 36, [http://amcu.gki.tj/eng/images/stories/nds\\_en.pdf](http://amcu.gki.tj/eng/images/stories/nds_en.pdf) accessed on 23/05/2014.

<sup>144</sup> Ibid, page 35.

<sup>145</sup> Ministry of Finance of Tajikistan, The Government Midterm Expenditure Framework for 2011-2013, 2010, page 22 <http://minfin.tj/downloads/files/MTEFfinalTajikenglish.pdf> accessed on 11/29/2013.

<sup>146</sup> National Development Strategy of Tajikistan, page 35, [http://amcu.gki.tj/eng/images/stories/nds\\_en.pdf](http://amcu.gki.tj/eng/images/stories/nds_en.pdf) accessed on 23/05/2014.

<sup>147</sup> UNICEF, Country Profile, *Education in Tajikistan*, undated, <http://www.unicef.org/ceecis/Tajikistan.pdf> page 4, accessed on 22/05/2014.

<sup>148</sup> Agency on Statistics under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan, *Tajikistan in Figures 2013*, [http://www.stat.tj/en/img/ad0df465351c083293dff8839095681b\\_1378536749.pdf](http://www.stat.tj/en/img/ad0df465351c083293dff8839095681b_1378536749.pdf) accessed on 11/29/2013, page 35.

<sup>149</sup> UNICEF, Country Profile, *Education in Tajikistan*, undated: <http://www.unicef.org/ceecis/Tajikistan.pdf> page 2, accessed on 22/05/2014

<sup>150</sup> UNICEF, Country Profile, *Education in Tajikistan*, undated: <http://www.unicef.org/ceecis/Tajikistan.pdf> page 1, accessed on 22/05/2014

<sup>151</sup> Agency on Statistics under President of the Republic of Tajikistan, *Tajikistan in Figures 2013*, [http://www.stat.tj/en/img/ad0df465351c083293dff8839095681b\\_1378536749.pdf](http://www.stat.tj/en/img/ad0df465351c083293dff8839095681b_1378536749.pdf) accessed on 11/29/2013, page 36.

Tojikobod. ATC has expanded rapidly by establishing branches also in Khorugh, Vanj, Darvoz, Panjakent, Matchoh, Yovon, Shuroobod and Qubodiyon. Based on the President's recommendation, the ATCs should educate around 100,000 specialists annually by introducing a multiple shifts system and through shortening the duration of some courses. ATCs have the capacity to train people of all ages, including unemployed and returning Tajik migrant workers in 48 specialties and professions. Additionally, children not in education are enrolled to receive specialized trainings with the support from international organizations. The ATC in Dushanbe established with government and donor funding annually trains from 8,000 to 10,000 unemployed people. The Governments of Germany, Turkey and the Islamic Republic of Iran are supporting the ATCs within the framework of technical cooperation by providing equipment and training support. For instance, the Government of Germany has supplied the car diagnostics and repair equipment, and local trainers increased their knowledge and skills by attending refresher courses in Germany.

Vocational Courses and Specialties offered at ATCs include Car Repair, Basics of Entrepreneurship, Basketry, Carpet weaving, Foreign Language and Computer Courses, Gem Processing, Gold-Embroidery, Housekeeping, Knitting, Mobile Phone Repair, Patchwork, Pattern Weaving, Pottery, Repair of Household Items, Tailoring, Vegetable and Fruit Canning, Woodcarving, 1C Accountancy, Beekeeping, Carer, Carpentry, Confectioner, Controller-Electrician, Crane Operator, Electric Welder, Electrician, Horticulturalist, Furniture Maker, Gas Welder, Grape Grower, Grocer, Hairdresser, Hotel Worker, Jeweler, Lathe Operator, Plasterer, Plumber, Salesperson, Secretary, Shoe Manufacturer, Social Worker, Software Engineer, Weaver, Flower Grower, Bakery, Bricklayer, Cook, Waiter.<sup>152</sup>

Tajikistan has a tertiary system of higher education which is regulated by the Law on Education, the Law on Higher Education, Professional Postgraduate Education, and the National Concept of Education. The higher education is represented by universities, academies, and institutes. The first two offer Bachelor, Masters and Specialist degrees, whereas the latter offer Bachelors and Specialist degrees.<sup>153</sup> As of 2012 there are 34 higher educational establishments in the country<sup>154</sup>. Educational institutions are financed by state budget, private funds, grants or loans. The country on average prepares 45 graduates per 10,000 population.<sup>155</sup>

#### **6.4.2. School and University Fees and Grants**

According to the Law on Higher Education, higher education is financed from the state budget and grants, as well as by students' fees. Annual fees depend on the department and university – private or public. Annual fees range from TJS 880 (USD 170) for teacher-training courses, to TJS 5,280 (USD 1,000) for law students.<sup>156</sup> About 60 per cent of students pay fees. Full-time students can receive merit-base and income-base presidential scholarships. Moreover, it is a common practice in Tajik students to pay unofficially for university admission and for exams.

#### **6.4.3. Links and Contacts**

##### **The Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Tajikistan**

734025, Dushanbe city, Academics Rajabovykh Street, 3  
Tel.: (+992 37) 222 33 53; Fax: (+992 37) 227 19 87

<sup>152</sup> From an expert interview with the Head of the Adult Training Centre led by IOM Tajikistan on 20 January 2014.

<sup>153</sup> European Commission, Higher Education in Tajikistan, last update July 2012: [http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/tempus/participating\\_countries/overview/Tajikistan.pdf](http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/tempus/participating_countries/overview/Tajikistan.pdf) accessed on 11/26/2013.

<sup>154</sup> Agency on Statistics under President of the Republic of Tajikistan, Tajikistan in Figures 2013, [http://www.stat.tj/en/img/ad0df465351c083293dff8839095681b\\_1378536749.pdf](http://www.stat.tj/en/img/ad0df465351c083293dff8839095681b_1378536749.pdf) accessed on 11/29/2013, page 36.

<sup>155</sup> Agency on Statistics under President of the Republic of Tajikistan, Tajikistan in Figures 2013, [http://www.stat.tj/en/img/ad0df465351c083293dff8839095681b\\_1378536749.pdf](http://www.stat.tj/en/img/ad0df465351c083293dff8839095681b_1378536749.pdf) accessed on 11/29/2013, page 36.

<sup>156</sup> European Commission, Higher Education in Tajikistan, last update July 2012: [http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/tempus/participating\\_countries/overview/Tajikistan.pdf](http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/tempus/participating_countries/overview/Tajikistan.pdf) accessed on 31/03/2014.

Website: [www.minfin.tj](http://www.minfin.tj)

**The Ministry of Education of the Republic of Tajikistan**

734025, Dushanbe city, Nisor Muhammad (former Chekhov) Street, 13 A

Tel.: (+992 37) 227 35 76; 221 46 05; 223 33 92

Website: [www.maorif.tj](http://www.maorif.tj)

**The Agency on Statistics under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan**

734025, Dushanbe city, Bokhtar Street, 17

Tel.: (+992 37) 223 02 45; Fax: (+992 37) 221 43 75

E-mail: [stat@tojikiston.com](mailto:stat@tojikiston.com)

Website: [www.stat.tj](http://www.stat.tj)

**List of available Adult Training Centres in the Republic of Tajikistan**

	<b>ATC and its Branches</b>	<b>Director</b>	<b>Contact Information</b>
1	ATC in Dushanbe	Faromuzov Alisher	5/1 A. Navoi Street, 734026, Dushanbe; Tel.: (+992 37) 2351870, Fax: (+992 37) 2361905; E-Mail: <a href="mailto:mtktjk@gmail.com">mtktjk@gmail.com</a>
2	ATC Branch in Khatlon	Taghoev Burikhon	3 I. Somoni Avenue, Kulob; Tel.: (+992 3322) 21359, 25269, (+992 95) 1771080; E-Mail: <a href="mailto:mtktkulyab@rambler.ru">mtktkulyab@rambler.ru</a>
3	ATC Branch in Qurghonteppa	Nurov Ubaidullo	F. Saidov Street, Qurghonteppa; Tel.: (+992 3222) 29208, 27620, (+992 98) 8593329;
4	ATC Branch in Tojikobod	Hujumborov Amrajon	M. Odinaev Street, Tojikobod; Tel.: (+992 930 7271700
5	ATC Branch in Konibodom	Buriev Soleh	H. Aliev Street, Konibodom; Tel.: (+992 92) 9040001, (+992 97) 7704384, (+992 92) 7768443; E-Mail: <a href="mailto:mtktkonibodom@rambler.ru">mtktkonibodom@rambler.ru</a> ; <a href="mailto:aisha65@mail.ru">aisha65@mail.ru</a>
6	ATC Branch in Dushanbe	Salomov Shukrullo	5/1 A. Navoi Street, 734026, Dushanbe; Tel.: (+992 37) 2361935, (+992 98) 5269043
7	ATC Branch in Khorugh	Marodbekova Elchai	Pirov Street, Khorugh; Tel.: (+992 3522) 24393; 24630; 25688; 26064; (+992 93) 5372979; (+992 3522) 25688; E-Mail: <a href="mailto:tktkhorog@rambler.ru">tktkhorog@rambler.ru</a>
8	ATC Branch in Panjakent	Nasimova Lola	34 M. Tursunzoda Street, Panjakent; Tel.: (+992 92) 7187479
9	ATC Branch in Isfara	Ghaniev Hasanjon	86 Azimova Street, Isfara; Tel.: (+992 93) 8382666; E-Mail: <a href="mailto:mtktisfara@rambler.ru">mtktisfara@rambler.ru</a> ; <a href="mailto:h_ganiev64@mail.ru">h_ganiev64@mail.ru</a>
10	ATC Branch in Qalai Khumb	Sharipov Shamshod	2 Shohmansur Street, Qalai Khumb; Tel.: (+992 93) 5478006; (+992 3552) 21496, 21396
11	ATC Branch in Matchoh	Abdulloev Sino	31 I. Somoni Avenue, Matchoh; Tel.: (+992 92) 7705863, (+992 92) 7080025;

			E-Mail: <a href="mailto:mtktmastchoh@rambler.ru">mtktmastchoh@rambler.ru</a>
12	ATC Branch in Yovon	Davlatov Hushnud	34 M. Tursunzoda Street, Yovon; Tel.: (+992 93) 5653054
13	ATC Branch in Vanj	Najmudinov Siroj	Puni Jugoni Area, Vanj; Tel.: (+992 93) 8639807; (+992 3551) 21400, 21882
14	ATC Branch in Shuroobod	Mirzoev Muzafar	Shuroobod Area, Shuroobod; Tel.: (+992 98) 8512735; (+992 3319) 21245
15	ATC Branch in Farhor	Safaraliev Iskandar	8 Muhamadiev Street, Farhor; Tel.: (+992 90) 4500145; (+992 3316) 23689, 22883
16	ATC Branch in Qubodiyon	Jumaev Dustmurod	U. Nazarov Community, Qubodiyon; Tel.: (+992 93) 4025030
17	ATC Branch in Faizobod	Mirzoev Nizomudin	Miskinobod Community, Faizobod; Tel.: (+992 98) 7130864
18	ATC Branch in Bobojon-Ghafurov	Odinaev Sharifjon	Khujandi Street, Bobojon-Ghafurov; Tel.: (+992 91) 8718115; (+992 92) 7584500; E-Mail: <a href="mailto:mtktgafurov@rambler.ru">mtktgafurov@rambler.ru</a>
19	ATC Branch in Istaravshan	Akramov Umar	138 Lenin Street, Istaravshan; Tel.: (+992 98) 5054441; E-Mail: <a href="mailto:mtktistaravshan@rambler.ru">mtktistaravshan@rambler.ru</a>
20	ATC Branch in Rasht	Idibekov Ahmadbek	52 I. Somoni Street, Rasht; Tel.: (+992 91) 8691398; E-Mail: <a href="mailto:akhmad59@mail.ru">akhmad59@mail.ru</a>
21	ATC Branch in Jabbor-Rasulov	Nishonov Lutfullo	D. Samadov Street, Gulakandoz Community, Jabbor-Rasulov; Tel.: (+992 92) 7587478
22	ATC Branch in Ayni	Ustoev Pairav	"Rahisham" building, Ayni; Tel.: (+992 93) 7129993
23	ATC Branch in Shohmansur	Sangmadov Ismoil	Ayni Street, Shohmansur; Tel.: (+992 98) 8619539
24	ATC Branch in Vahdat	Holov Zaidullo	Hairat Street, Numon Roziq town, Vahdat; Tel.: (+992 91) 9936497
25	ATC Branch in Hissor	Habibulloev Amonullo	10/2 F. Abdulloev Street, Hissor; Tel.: (+992 91) 8935495

Source: Adult Training Center in Dushanbe.

## 6.5. Employment

Around 70 per cent of the Tajik population is under the age of 30, with the average age countrywide being 25. After receiving independence from the Soviet Union the sharp economic decline became unavoidable given secessions of the Soviet subsidies, the gradual collapse of the infrastructure, the consecutive civil war, and continued population growth.<sup>157</sup> Today, Tajikistan's poverty rate is estimated at around 40 per cent.<sup>158</sup> This, in addition to the fast natural population growth, creates a continuous challenge in creating employment opportunities for the ever growing labour pool. The agricultural sector does not have capacity to absorb the excess of labour in the country<sup>159</sup>.

<sup>157</sup> Jaborrov S., Youth Radicalization in Tajikistan: Causes, Consequences and Challenges to Address, *The Central Asian Fellowship Papers*, 2013, pages 2-3.

<sup>158</sup> The World Bank, "Tajikistan: Sustaining Growth, Sharing Prosperity," *Tajikistan Economic Report*, No. 3, April 2013.

<sup>159</sup> Jaborrov S., Youth Radicalization in Tajikistan: Causes, Consequences and Challenges to Address, *The Central Asian Fellowship Papers*, 2013, page 3.

According to the Agency on Statistics of the President of Tajikistan the employment rate as of 2013 was 2,265,900 people<sup>160</sup> which is a slight increase from 2011 when employment rate was 2,249,000 people. The total number of the Tajik population as of 2012 was 7,987,400.<sup>161</sup> The registered unemployment for 2013 is 55.300 of people<sup>162</sup>, and the monthly average wage for 2013 is TJS 718.70 (USD 151).<sup>163</sup> The unemployment rate of 2.5 per cent is low because only those officially registered as unemployment, which is a fraction of those who are unemployed in the country, and does not reflect the reality in the labour market.<sup>164</sup> Low wages do not attract people into the local economy which contributes to migration of the Tajik population to the Russian Federation in search for better remuneration for labour. According to official Tajik statistics around 500,000 are at any point in the Russian Federation, whereas alternative sources estimate the number of emigrants as high as one million.<sup>165</sup> According to World Bank data, remittances of Tajik migrant workers account for almost 47 per cent of the local GDP.<sup>166</sup> Agriculture, forestry and fishing, according to the Agency on Statistics accounts for about 66 per cent of employment in the country, which is then followed by education sector (8%) and wholesale and retail trade which account for 6 per cent of employment in the country.<sup>167</sup>

Various national employment services have employed more than 22,000 people in the seven months of 2013. According to SASPPEM, 30.7 per cent of people were employed out of all who applied. SASPPEM has been approached by about 73,000 people since the beginning of 2013, over 43,000 of whom are registered as those seeking for a job and almost 32,000 people are officially recognized as unemployed. A respondent at SASPPEM noted that the main reasons for low employment rates are the lack of vocational training or loss of skills due to a long period of inactivity and low wages provided by employers.

In the period from January to July 2013, more than 4,700 individuals received unemployment benefits totaling about USD 417,000. Starting in August 2013, the number of job-seekers in Tajikistan has increased to about 80,000 people, 57,000 of whom are registered as unemployed.

Between January and April 2013, over 12,000 people have been referred to vocational training institutions, about 3,500 attended paid relief works, and above 1,700 people received preferential loans from SASPPEM for the development of individual businesses. Data provided by SASPPEM showed that between the periods January to July 2013, nearly 135,000 new jobs were created, which is 58.5 per cent increase as opposed to 85,000 new jobs created in the seven months of 2012.

### 6.5.1. Private and Public Employment Agencies

There are both public and private employment agencies in Tajikistan. The Employment Service by the Ministry of Labour, Migration and Employment provides information services for people looking for employment. Recognizing an increase in unemployment and lack of information to local vacancies by migrant workers and other disadvantaged groups, in 2011,

<sup>160</sup> Agency on Statistics under President of the Republic of Tajikistan, Socioeconomic Condition in the Republic of Tajikistan, 2013, page 200.

<sup>161</sup> Agency on Statistics under President of the Republic of Tajikistan, Basic Economic Data 2003-2012, <http://www.stat.tj/en/analytical-tables/real-sector/> accessed on 11/25/2013.

<sup>162</sup> Agency on Statistics under President of the Republic of Tajikistan, Socioeconomic Condition in the Republic of Tajikistan, 2013, page 200.

<sup>163</sup> Agency on Statistics under President of the Republic of Tajikistan, Socioeconomic Condition in the Republic of Tajikistan, 2013, page 210.

<sup>164</sup> Jaborrov S., Youth Radicalization in Tajikistan: Causes, Consequences and Challenges to Address, *The Central Asian Fellowship Papers*, 2013, page 3.

<sup>165</sup> Jaborrov S., Youth Radicalization in Tajikistan: Causes, Consequences and Challenges to Address, *The Central Asian Fellowship Papers*, 2013, pages 4-5.

<sup>166</sup> The World Bank, Migration and Development Brief #20, 19 April 2013, <http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTPROSPECTS/Resources/334934-1288990760745/MigrationDevelopmentBrief20.pdf> accessed on 22/05/2014.

<sup>167</sup> Agency on Statistics under President of the Republic of Tajikistan, Employment by sector of the economy (1985-2012), <http://www.stat.tj/en/analytical-tables/real-sector/> accessed on 11/25/2013.

the government has introduced a National Online Vacancy Database available at: [www.kor.tj](http://www.kor.tj). The database is updated and managed by the Employment Service and provides information with approximately 10,000 available vacancies inside Tajikistan and abroad. It also contains the specific information about salary scales and working conditions. In addition, website visitors can obtain information on vocational education, job fairs, and assistance provided by various state service providers.<sup>168</sup> The Employment Service periodically organises job fairs in urban and rural regions of the country.

In the recent years there has been a rise of private employment agencies.<sup>169</sup> They are oriented mainly towards employment outside Tajikistan, mainly in the Russian Federation. Apart from that, people look for jobs through newspapers. There are also informal labour markets (*bozori madikor*). However, since Tajikistan is a country where regional and family ties are very strong, more probably a job can be found through acquaintances. Very often the employment is informal.

### **6.5.2. Unemployment Benefit**

Since 2011 unemployment benefits are paid for three months after having lost the previous job. In the first month benefits amount to 50 per cent of the previous salary, in the second month to 40 per cent and in the third month to 30 per cent.

Unemployed persons in Tajikistan are defined as people without work and actively searching for work. They are registered at national employment offices and ready to start work once a job or an appropriate placement is available. Employment offices make the decision as to whether a person is unemployed and qualifies for unemployment benefits. The person must register with an employment office at a place of residence and should provide a valid passport along with a labour book (occupational record) and documents validating his/her professional qualification.

In order to qualify for unemployment benefits an individual should have had a job and been paid not less than twelve weeks of the last twelve completed calendar months prior to the date the initial claim was filed to employment offices providing that social insurance contributions were paid into a Social Insurance Fund.

The 50 per cent unemployment benefit is calculated by taking the average earned wages from the last work and estimated for the last two months of work.<sup>170</sup>

### **6.5.3. Links and Contacts**

#### **The Ministry of Labour, Migration, and Population Employment of the Republic of Tajikistan**

734026, Dushanbe city, Navoi Street, 5/2

Tel.: (+992 37) 235 03 84

Website: [www.mehnat.tj](http://www.mehnat.tj)

#### **The Agency on Statistics under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan**

734025, Dushanbe city, Bokhtar Street, 17

Tel.: (+992 37) 223 02 45; Fax: (+992 37) 221 43 75

E-mail: [stat@tojikiston.com](mailto:stat@tojikiston.com)

Website: [www.stat.tj](http://www.stat.tj)

<sup>168</sup> National Information Agency "Khovar", Natsional'naya baza dannyh o svobodnyh rabochyh mestah, <http://khovar.tj/rus/society/34238-nacionalnaya-baza-dannyh-o-svobodnyh-rabochih-mestah.html> accessed on 10/01/2014.

<sup>169</sup> International Labour Organization and International Organization for Migration, *Labour Migration and the Emergence of Private Employment Agencies in Tajikistan: a Review of Current Law and Practice*, [http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed\\_norm/---declaration/documents/publication/wcms\\_120534.pdf](http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_norm/---declaration/documents/publication/wcms_120534.pdf) page 10, accessed on 31/03/2014.

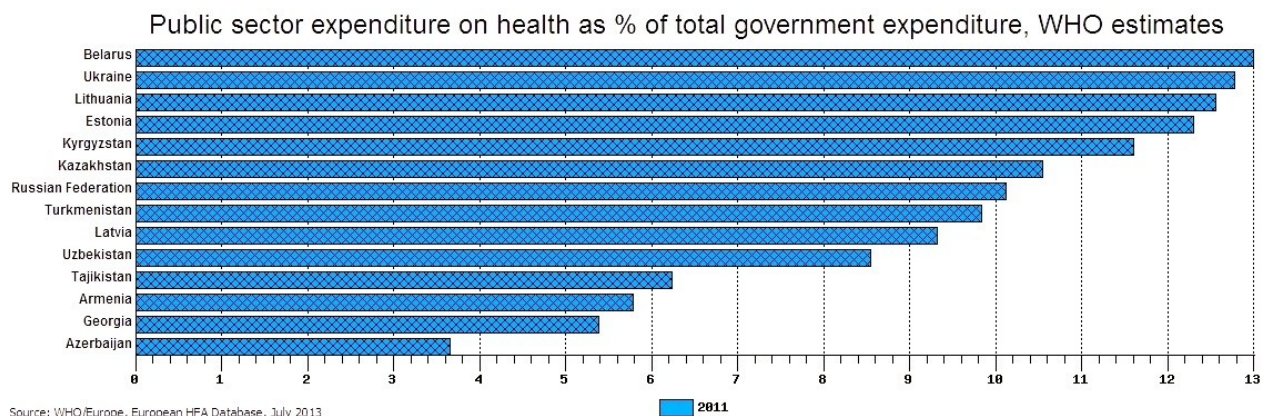
<sup>170</sup> NGO "Pravo i Blogodensvie", Brochure: Types of Benefits.

## 6.6. Health

### 6.6.1. General Information

The incidence of cardiovascular diseases with fairly prevalent ischemic heart disease accounts for 19 per cent of the disease burden in Tajikistan. Although there have been considerable efforts to tackle the problem of infant and maternal mortality over the past ten years, the death rates are still high in Tajikistan.<sup>171</sup> The priority goal of the National Health Strategy is thereby to improve the standards of maternal and child health and contribute to the reduction of mortality rates among infants and women. Another disturbing public health problem in Tajikistan is the highest rate of tuberculosis incidence within the World Health Organization's European Region (WHO, 2009). Overall, TB accounts for 17 per cent of the disease burden and ranked third after meningitis and diarrhoeal diseases in the country. It has been estimated that sexually transmitted infections form 40 per cent of the national burden of disease in Tajikistan. A large number of Tajiks often from poor rural areas live in extreme poverty and lack access to pure drinking and irrigation water. Absence of water and sewage systems and pollution from stockbreeding farms are contributing factors to the outbreak of water-borne and parasitic diseases.<sup>172</sup>

Among the ex-Soviet republics, Tajikistan belongs to the countries with low levels of public spending on health (Figure below). Public finances for health in 2011 accounted for 29.56<sup>173</sup> per cent and the health expenditure per capita was last reported at USD 54.08 in 2011 (see table below).<sup>174</sup>



<sup>171</sup> National Development Strategy of Tajikistan, 2006, pages 63-64, [http://amcu.gki.tj/eng/images/stories/nds\\_en.pdf](http://amcu.gki.tj/eng/images/stories/nds_en.pdf) accessed on 23/05/2014.

<sup>172</sup> Ministry of Health of the Republic of Tajikistan, *Joint Annual Review of the National Health Strategy of the Republic of Tajikistan for 2010-2020*.

<sup>173</sup> World Development Indicators, based on World Health Organization National Health Account database, 2013, <http://api.worldbank.org/v2/en/country/tjk?downloadformat=excel> accessed on 25/12/2013.

<sup>174</sup> Ibid.

## Trends in health expenditure for Tajikistan, 2007-2011

Indicator Name	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
External resources for health (% of total expenditure on health)	9,8	8,7	10,0	8,3	14,3
Out-of-pocket health expenditure (% of total expenditure on health)	73,0	72,3	67,8	66,5	60,1
Out-of-pocket health expenditure (% of private expenditure on health)	93,8	95,8	90,3	90,7	85,4
Health expenditure per capita (current US\$)	30,1	43,1	43,5	49,1	54,1
Health expenditure per capita, PPP (constant 2005 international \$)	85,5	109,2	120,1	128,7	135,4
Health expenditure, private (% of GDP)	4,2	4,2	4,4	4,4	4,1
Health expenditure, public (% of total health expenditure)	22,2	24,6	24,9	26,7	29,6
Health expenditure, public (% of government expenditure)	4,3	5,0	5,4	5,9	6,2
Health expenditure, public (% of GDP)	1,2	1,4	1,5	1,6	1,7
Health expenditure, total (% of GDP)	5,3	5,6	5,9	6,0	5,8

Source: World Development Indicators, World Bank

The public health expenditure as a share of GDP in 2011 was only 1.7 per cent and Tajikistan spent only 6.2 per cent of general government expenditures on health. Based on the above data, it is evident that the health sector occupies the lowest rank amidst other social sectors in the government's priority list while private health spending represents the majority of health expenditure in the country. Tajikistan's external dependence on foreign resources for health also represents certain risks to the sustainability of the health-care system of the country. Over 40 foreign organisations are contributing to Tajikistan's health-care system.<sup>175</sup> Key actors are the World Bank, the EU and WHO.

### 6.6.2. Health-Care Services

Health-care service delivery in Tajikistan is organized into four administrative levels: national, (republican), regional (oblast), district (rayon), and village. Tajikistan's Health Strategy 2010-2020 is explicit about the reorganization and restructuring of the service provider network through downsizing the hospital sector. Tajikistan has improved its hospital bed capacity in recent years by 35 per cent, yet, in spite of these efforts, the bed-to-population ratio in the country remains high compared with other CIS countries. The cost of treatment in Tajik public hospitals is carried out by patients. They still have to pay whatever the hospital charges for any routine drugs and treatment. Thus, all patients are consumers even if treatment is provided free of charge. Despite state support, public hospitals are in a poorer financial situation than private hospitals, which provide patients with a fixed price treatment covering, for example, consultation and treatment.

### 6.6.3. Available State Programs

Tajikistan has undertaken several initiatives to demonstrate an increasing commitment towards an enhanced public health sector through health policies and state programmes. In 1994, the Ministry of Health adopted the National Immunization Programme aimed at eliminating diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, polio, measles and tuberculosis and a new calendar introduced for extended immunization.

The 2005 Health Financing Strategy for the period 2005-2015 aims to ensure affordability by taking equity matters into account and overall optimization of health sector.

A Programme for the Development of the Health Management Information System was adopted for 2006-2010. Its main goals are to enhance and unify the health information system through improved data collection, processing and analysis. The Programme was developed and launched with the support of WHO Country Office in 2008. The problem of

<sup>175</sup> The European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies, Tajikistan: Health System Review, 2010, [http://www.euro.who.int/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0009/119691/E94243.pdf](http://www.euro.who.int/_data/assets/pdf_file/0009/119691/E94243.pdf) page 59, accessed on 31/03/2014.

tuberculosis in Tajikistan remains very acute despite the adoption of the 2009 National Tuberculosis Programme aiming to decrease the population's vulnerability to this disease through improving the socioeconomic situation in the country.

As one of the main strategic documents, the 2010 National Health Strategy for the period to 2020 introduces a Mandatory Health Insurance and sets the direction in terms of action to implement health financing reforms that will include the development of pooling of funds and health purchasing mechanisms.

The adoption of the country's health-care insurance law by the Tajik Parliament in 2008 and the President's Resolution on the implementation of a Mandatory Health Insurance (MHI) in 2010 were premature decisions, which Tajikistan was not ready to implement. As a result, the law has been amended and the MHI implementation was postponed to 2014. An analysis conducted in March 2013 revealed that the implementation of MHI is feasible in Tajikistan, however, requires further discussions to design thorough plans and activities.<sup>176</sup> At the moment the insurance system in Tajikistan is still in transition. In January 2014 the Ministry of Health proposed that introduction of MHI to be postponed until 2017.<sup>177</sup>

People can have private insurances. The list of insurance companies can be found in the section 'List of insurance companies'. The average annual fee in private insurance companies varies from TJS 500 to TJS 1,000.

All of the above-mentioned programmes are also closely linked to the Living Standards Improvement Strategy for 2013-2015, which has prioritized all the issues to be addressed in the field of health reforms as well.

At present, there are 14 national programmes being implemented by the Ministry of Health on a range of issues including (i) Blood Donation and Services Improvement Programme 2010-2014; (ii) National Programme for Congenital and Rheumatic Heart Disease Prevention, Diagnosis and Therapy 2011-2015; (iii) Programme for Treatment of Malignant Neoplasm 2010-2015; (iv) Programme on Malaria 2011-2015; (v) Healthy Lifestyle 2011-2020; (vi) Occupational Diseases 2010-2015; (vii) Diabetes 2012-2017; (viii) Gastrointestinal Diseases 2012-2016; (ix) Drug Addiction and Abuse Treatment Programme for 2013-2017; (x) Coronary Heart Disease 2007-2015; and (xi) Injury Prevention and Treatment Programme 2010-2015.<sup>178</sup>

#### **6.6.4. Cooperation with International Health-Care Services**

Among Tajikistan's efforts to exchange experience and raise the qualification of its health professionals are the establishment of medical partnerships with countries where Tajik medical specialists often go, such as the Russian Federation, the People's Republic of China and the Islamic Republics of Afghanistan and Iran. The bilateral agreements also linked the Ministry of Health with different scholarship providers and donor organizations such as USAID, Muskie, Fulbright, Humphrey and other scholarship programmes providing an opportunity for Tajik health workers to grow professionally through various trainings, workshops, conferences, internships and studies both inside and outside of Tajikistan. The Open Society Institute (OSI) jointly with the Austrian Foundation offer a series of medical seminars in Salzburg and professional affiliation programmes at the Austrian clinics for doctors and medical practitioners.

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<sup>176</sup> Ministry of Health of the Republic of Tajikistan, Health Policy Analysis Unit (HPAU), Collection of Policy Briefs, 2013, pages 7-8.

<sup>177</sup> The World Health Organization (WHO), *Tajikistan Plans Introduction of Mandatory Health Insurance*, <http://www.euro.who.int/en/countries/tajikistan/news/news/2014/01/tajikistan-plans-introduction-of-mandatory-health-insurance> accessed on 31/03/2014.

<sup>178</sup> Ministry of Health and Social Protection, National programs, 2010 – 2015, <http://www.health.tj/ru/natsionalnye-programmy-0> accessed on 27/12/2013.

Also exchange visits and learning between the Tajik and German surgeons in performing plastic, reconstructive surgery operations and cooperation in dentistry has been quite beneficial to all participants and became a common practice between the two countries. There are also a number of private clinics opened in Tajikistan by foreign medical specialists from the Islamic Republic of Iran, the People's Republic of China, and the Republic of Korea.<sup>179</sup>

#### **6.6.5. Care for the Elderly**

In respect to care delivery for elders, a number of efforts have been put in place in Tajikistan. These include, for instance, the "National Review on Ageing in Tajikistan" supported by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat and the decision of the Ministry of Health, in 2012, about establishing gerontology points in all medical centres of Tajikistan, including gerontology courses under the Tajik Institute for Postgraduate Education and the State Medical University. Tajikistan has a National Network of Organizations called "The World of Older Generation" and legal entities exist throughout the country, including two NGOs: 1) Central Asian Gerontology Centre and 2) National Centre of Tajik Volunteers comprised of elders.

At present, there are no structures within the Ministry of Health specifically dealing with the provision of health services to elders.<sup>180</sup> Medical services for the elderly are provided on a common basis across hospitals and by family doctors. There is difficulty in accessing medical services by the elderly because of the high cost – over 70 per cent of them cannot afford treatment in hospitals.

One of the reasons for not receiving the necessary care is the remoteness of the place of residence of the elderly from primary health care. The second reason is the lack of family physicians and social workers. There is only one hospice, a nursing care centre, available in the country, while a significant number of elderly people are in need of due care by social workers and nurses, in particular. For older adults, there is a special state service providing home care and a department preparing social workers. However, taking into account the shortage of specialists, the low wages and the high workload, this sector remains underdeveloped.

As part of the National Centre of Tajik Volunteers, the "Together We Make a Better World" programme is aimed at developing self-help skills of older individuals, making them healthier, preventing illnesses and disabilities. This programme is specifically designed to establish self-help groups (SHG) in which the healthier elderly people provide assistance to aged or disabled individuals. There are a few such SHGs existing in Dushanbe only but this experience could be expanded and replicated in other regions of the country if financial assistance is provided.

#### **6.6.6. Care for the Disabled**

There are a number of programmes and organizations that provide people with disabilities (PWD) with assistance and support. These include, for instance, the Disabled Women's League "Ishtirok" and similar organizations established in the towns of Konibodom and Tursunzoda. There are also national unions and associations for the disabled, blind and deaf persons with more than 30 branches established throughout the country. The Special Needs Parents Coalition represented by 23 organizations provides support to children with disabilities. Besides these, the United Nations Development Programme within its "Tajik Mine

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<sup>179</sup> Information from Interviews with key informants (Ministry of Health, Open Society Foundation, UNDP, health professionals) led by IOM Tajikistan

<sup>180</sup> Natsional'ny otchyot o vypolnenii Regional'noi strategii osushestvleniya (RSO) Madridskogo Mezhdunarodnogo plana deistviy po problemam stareniya (MIPAA) v Respublike Tadjikistan, [http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/pau/age/country\\_rpts/TJK\\_report.pdf](http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/pau/age/country_rpts/TJK_report.pdf) accessed on 15/01/2014.

Action Programme” being implemented since 2003, helps decreasing the number of accidents and relieving the burden of living with disabilities.

Apart from this, the Global Initiative on Psychiatry (GIP) has established the Centre on Mental Health targeting also the elderly and PWD. Other international and donor organizations supporting activities towards helping the elderly people and PWD include: the Finnish Abilis Foundation and Kunyns ry acting through its partner organizations throughout the world, the Eurasia Foundation, Handicap International (HI), Japanese Association for Aid and Relief (AAR) and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) working directly with the Government of Tajikistan.

Tajikistan remains the only country in Central Asia that has not signed the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). Nonetheless, the past years have also given rise to progress towards the possibility of signing and ratification of CRPD. One of the initiatives proposed by “Ishtirok” was the establishment of an informal Coalition comprised of 13 public organizations to promote the process of signing the Convention by Tajikistan.

The government continues providing support to many initiatives aimed at addressing the urgent needs of PWDs at a country level. The Law of Tajikistan on Social Protection of PWDs determines the state policy in respect to disabled persons and specifically aimed at providing social protection and equal opportunities and ensuring the full enjoyment of constitutional human rights and freedoms by PWDs as well as eliminating barriers in accessing public services and creating favourable conditions that allow PWDs actively participate in the economic and political life of the society and execute their civic duties.

Despite many efforts of the government, Human Rights and Disabled People’s Organizations (DPO), the situation continues to be bad enough as disabled individuals cannot participate in the competitive labour market activities due to the poor infrastructure in terms of accessibility to transportation means and buildings. This signifies that many PWDs are thus excluded from the labour market and stay passive at their homes. The pension benefits that PWDs receive are insufficient and many are therefore forced to street begging or ask various sources for help. Society still has a wrong understanding of the term PWD and the biased attitudes towards the people with disabilities still persist. Only because of their physical disabilities, PWDs are often viewed as being a different category of people. They are frequently segregated by the society and family from people with no physical impairments. Besides, some DPOs also have old stereotyped perceptions and distance themselves from PWDs thus inclining towards medical and charitable models of understanding of the term PWD.<sup>181</sup>

#### **6.6.7. HIV/AIDS<sup>182</sup>**

According to the UNAIDS Report on the Global AIDS epidemic, Tajikistan belongs to those countries with an increase in HIV by 25 per cent within the past ten years.<sup>183</sup> The spread of HIV amounts to 43.4 diagnosed cases per 100,000 people. HIV incidence was registered in 66 out of 68 country's locations. The estimated number of people living with HIV (PLHIV) in the country accounted for 12,759 people.

Of all HIV reported cases, 53 per cent represented HIV transmission through injection, of which 52.6 per cent have contracted HIV through injecting drugs and 0.39 per cent through transfusion of contaminated blood. Among the HIV infections, 29.8 per cent reported to be sexually acquired, vertical HIV transmission accounted for 1.5 per cent and 15.7 per cent of transmission remains unknown.

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<sup>181</sup> Information from an interview with A. Mukhammedjanova, Facilitator of the Abilis Foundation Partnership Program in Tajikistan, 11 January 2014.

<sup>182</sup> UNAIDS, Natsionalny otchyot o dostignutom progresse v osushestvlenii mer v otvet na SPID, March 2012, [http://www.unaids.org/en/dataanalysis/knowyourresponse/countryprogressreports/2012countries/ce\\_TJ\\_Narrative\\_Report\[1\].pdf](http://www.unaids.org/en/dataanalysis/knowyourresponse/countryprogressreports/2012countries/ce_TJ_Narrative_Report[1].pdf) accessed on 20/05/2014.

<sup>183</sup> Ibid, page 7.

The incidence of sexual HIV transmission among women has increased in the country. According to the Republican AIDS Control Centre (RACC), the incidence of sexual HIV infection among women was 62.7 per cent in 2011.

Providing access to antiretroviral therapy (ART) for PLHIV is one of the core objectives of a national programme designed to counter HIV in Tajikistan. Funds required to achieve the objective are estimated at USD 9.07 million. Antiretroviral therapy in Tajikistan was introduced in 2006. Due to a lack of state funding, ART is presently supported by the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria (GFATM).

RACC controls the process of providing ART in the country, including the management of patients and provision of antiretroviral medication. The percentage of adults and children with advanced HIV infection was calculated based on data available under registries for prescribing ART and regular monitoring of RACC in managing patients under AR therapy. The indicator was calculated on the basis of data on officially reported PLHIV cases according to the National Monitoring and Evaluation Plan.<sup>184</sup> In 2010, WHO protocols were adapted and introduced to provide assistance and HIV/AIDS treatment. In accordance with the new protocol, ART is prescribed under CD4 counts lower than 350 cells per microlitre.

There are nine ART schemes used in the country. The schemes were amended (transfer from scheme one to scheme two) in 5.2 per cent of all cases in the period 2010-2011 because of interruption, side-effects, and their low efficiency as per clinical immunology indicators. ART is free of charge for the patients.

The strength of antiretroviral therapy in Tajikistan can be attributed to the improved infrastructure for diagnosing HIV infections and determining CD4 cells and viral loads.

The regular procurement and provision of antiretroviral medicines has become possible with the financial support of GFATM. All national protocols are updated and aligned with WHO protocols.

Problems in effectively providing the antiretroviral therapy are (a) shortages of trained specialists to manage patients who receive antiretroviral therapy, (b) quality of ART database, data entry and monitoring ART results need to be improved, (c) late identification and prescription of ART, (d) lack of data on patient's antiretroviral drug resistance, (e) insufficient adherence to ART, and (f) shortcomings of the existing drug policy and mechanisms that provide PLHIV with free treatment services and ensure sustainability of ART provision.

#### **6.6.8. Mental Health**

Mental health care in Tajikistan remains quite problematic. While the first two decades after independence witnessed some progress in health-care reforms, little attention has been given to the mental health system in Tajikistan. The existing mental care facilities for people with mental health problems appear to be badly inadequate, as any assistance rendered is entirely dependent upon the limited financial and non-financial resources of international organizations such as: the World Health Organization (WHO), Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF), Global Initiative for Psychiatry (GIP), and International Federation of the Red Cross (IFRC). The State is challenged by limited financial and human resources to determine the needs of people with mental illness and develop appropriate responses.

A WHO Assessment of the mental health system carried out in 2008 brought to light the shortcomings in policy and legislation, practices and procedures, complicated further by the lack of a unified, comprehensive and clear mental health plan in Tajikistan. The mechanisms designed to approach mental illnesses are outdated and require revision. The assessment findings revealed that the government's spending on mental health made up only 1 per cent

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<sup>184</sup> Ibid, page 49.

of the total health-care expenditure and the cost of psychotropic medicines to pay out of pocket by consumers equaled 18 per cent (USD 0.35 per day) for purchasing antipsychotic and 10 per cent (USD 0.20 per day) for antidepressant medication.<sup>185</sup>

According to the Deputy Minister of Health of Tajikistan, about 50 per cent of major depressions in Tajikistan still go untreated and, in many cases, patients do not know that they need to seek professional help.<sup>186</sup> During his visit to Tajikistan in 2012, the UN Special Rapporteur evaluated the situation with the rights of vulnerable persons in accessing mental health-care services. Yet the lack of a detailed national plan of action indicates a serious problem for tackling the needs of persons living with mental illness. Nevertheless, the UN Rapporteur also highlighted that there is now a positive trend to be seen in the government's formal engagement by developing and adopting the National Mental Health Policy/Strategy. In 2012, the government expenditure to mental health was only about 1.5 per cent, which demonstrates that mental health is very low on the agenda of the government.<sup>187</sup>

### 6.6.9. Hepatitis

Compared with 2012, the total number of patients with hepatitis infections in Tajikistan has increased by 188 people in 2013. The Deputy Minister of Health, Nafrufa Dzhaifarova, reports about an estimated 10,220 registered cases of all hepatitis infections in 2013 and a decrease in the number of patients with hepatitis B and C compared to 2012. According to the Deputy Minister of Health, "The main reason that might explain the observed decrease of hepatitis B and C is improved provision of medical services. However, the incidence of dangerous viral diseases is still high especially in remote areas of the country where there is a need in enhancing measures for providing needed medical services."

On the other hand, unofficial data indicates a sharp increase in the occurrence of hepatitis cases in Dushanbe in 2013. Thus, hepatitis A outbreaks among 46 per cent of children in Dushanbe have been reported in 2013.

However, the Deputy Minister denies this figure, arguing that the number of patients with hepatitis accounts for 1,270 people in Dushanbe.

"This figure includes both preschool and school-aged children as well as the adults. It is impossible that 46 per cent of infected represent only children."

Under condition of anonymity, one citizen of Dushanbe reported transmission of hepatitis C during dental procedures:

"I can prove that hepatitis C was transmitted to me at a dental clinic close to my house. I say it because I regularly donated blood and my donations had never been rejected. Last time when I tried to donate blood, they refused to take it because an analysis revealed hepatitis C in it."

The above cited anonymous informant assures that 142 people infected with hepatitis C have been registered at a local polyclinic.<sup>188</sup>

On the contrary, the Ministry of Health reports about 245 hepatitis B infections (30 cases reported less than in 2012) and 66 hepatitis C infections (13 cases reported less than in 2012) in 2013.

<sup>185</sup> WHO-AIMS Report on Mental Health System in Tajikistan, WHO and Ministry of Health, Dushanbe, Tajikistan, 2009: [http://www.who.int/mental\\_health/tajikistan\\_who\\_aims\\_report.pdf](http://www.who.int/mental_health/tajikistan_who_aims_report.pdf) page 5, accessed on 01/07/2014.

<sup>186</sup> World Mental Health Day in Tajikistan: WHO and Ministry of Health draw attention to support and treatment for people, suffering from depression, 19 October 2012: <http://www.euro.who.int/en/health-topics/noncommunicable-diseases/mental-health/news/news/2012/10/world-mental-health-day-in-tajikistan-who-and-ministry-of-health-draw-attention-to-support-and-treatment-for-people-suffering-from-depression> accessed on 01/07/2014.

<sup>187</sup> Press-statement on the Right of Everyone to the Enjoyment of the Highest Attainable Standard of Physical and Mental Health by Mr. Anand Grover – UN Special Rapporteur Country Visit to Tajikistan, 24 to 31 May 2012, <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=12200&LangID=E> accessed on 01/07/2014.

<sup>188</sup> ASIA-Plus Online Newspaper, Chislo bolnyh gepatitom v Tadjikistane uvelichilos, 10 January 2014, <http://news.tj/ru/news/chislo-bolnykh-gepatitom-v-tadjikistane-uvelichilos>, accessed on 21/01/2014.

The Deputy Minister noted that they receive many complaints about transmission of hepatitis in dental settings, however:

“It is important to know that the symptoms of hepatitis B and C viruses may not appear for up to 6 months after the time of infection and are often asymptomatic. A week after visiting a dentist, infected patients complain about picking up an infection at a dental clinic. Before paying a visit to a dental office, they should undergo blood testing for hepatitis.”

A leading specialist of a Sanitary and Epidemiological Station also believes that the viruses are transmitted through the use of non-sterile medical equipment.<sup>189</sup>

#### 6.6.10. Links and Contacts

##### **The Ministry of Health and Social Protection of the Republic of Tajikistan**

734025, Dushanbe city, Shevchenko Street, 69

Tel.: (+992 37) 221 12 48; (+992 44) 600 60 02

E-Mail: [info@moh.tj](mailto:info@moh.tj)

Website: [www.health.tj](http://www.health.tj)

##### **List of Hospitals**

#	Name of hospital (s)	Address and number of telephone
1	Medical centre "Nasi"	Dushanbe, 734025, 31 M. Tursunzoda Str., Tel.: (+992 37) 2278828
2	A.M. Dyakov Republican Hospital #3	Dushanbe, 734064, 59 I. Somoni Ave., Tel.: (+992 37) 2358834
3	Blood Transfusion Station	Dushanbe, 734025, 16 M. Tursunzoda Str., Tel.: (+992 37) 2217646
4	Central Hospital	Jirgatal, 735470, Tel.: (+992 3132) 21739
5	Central Hospital	Kolhozobod, 735200, Tel.: (+992 3247) 43896
6	Central Hospital	Qumsangir, 735200, Tel.: (+992 3249) 42872
7	Central Hospital	Qubodiyon, 735191, Tel.: (+992 3251) 21262
8	Central Hospital	Jilikul, 735214, Tel.: (+992 3248) 23215
9	Central Hospital	Danghara, 735320, Tel.: (+992 3312) 25036
10	Central Hospital	Kulob, 735360, Tel.: (+992 3322) 22986
11	Central Hospital	Qurghonteppa, 735140, Tel.: (+992 3222) 22986
12	Central Hospital	Muminobod, 735365, Tel.: (+992 3246) 22246
13	Central Hospital	Nurobod, 735420, Tel.: (+992 3133) 21248
14	Central Hospital	Farhor, 735390, Tel.: (+992 3316) 22045
15	Central Hospital	Konibodom, 735900, Tel.: (+992 3467) 32865

<sup>189</sup> Ibid.

16	Central Hospital	Isfara, 735920, Tel.: (+992 3462) 22191
17	Central Hospital	Istaravshan, 735610, Tel.: (+992 3454) 22131
18	Central Hospital	Zafarobod, 735522, Tel.: (+992 3452) 52375
19	Central Hospital	Qairoqqum, 735750, Tel.: (+992 3443) 23073
20	Central Hospital	Matchoh, 735800, Tel.: (+992 37945) 22080
21	Central Hospital	Naus, 735830, Tel.: (+992 3241) 22432
22	Children District Hospital	Khujand, 735700, Tel.: (+992 3422) 61623
23	Children Hospital #2	Dushanbe, 734003, 133 Rudaki Ave., Tel.: (+992 37) 2243523
24	Children Infectious Diseases Hospital	Dushanbe, 734025, 20 Sherozi Str., Tel.: (+992 37) 2217338
25	Children Surgical Hospital	Dushanbe, 734025, 4 Gorkogo Str., Tel.: (+992 37) 2273400
26	Children TB Hospital	Dushanbe, 734025, 45 Azizbekov Str., Tel.: (+992 37) 2214132
27	City Clinical Hospital	Dushanbe, 734024, 46 Aini Str., Tel.: 03
28	City Hospital	Kulob, 735360
29	City Hospital	Khujand, 735700, Tel.: (+992 3422) 40049
30	City Hospital #1	Dushanbe, 734025, 12 Tehron Str., Tel.: (+992 37) 2213119
31	City Hospital #2	Khujand, 735700, Tel.: (+992 3422) 41471
32	City Hospital #3	Dushanbe, 734025, 6 Academic Rajabovs Str., Tel.: (+992 37) 2211906
33	City Hospital #5	Dushanbe, 734025, 33 Sanoi Str., Tel.: (+992 37) 2241900
34	International clinic "Ibn Sino"	Dushanbe, 734001, 34 F. Niyozzi Str., Tel.: (+992 44) 6400102
35	Main Hospital of the Border Guard Committee	Dushanbe, 734025, 5 Muhammadiev Str., Tel.: (+992 37) 2375176
36	Main Military Hospital of the Ministry of Defence	Dushanbe, 734025, 40 Let Pobedy Str., Tel.: (+992 37) 2342580
37	Nursing Care Hospital	Dushanbe, 734057, 80 Firdousi Str., Tel.: (+992 37) 2316247
38	Prospekt Medical Clinic	Dushanbe, 33 Sanoi Str., Tel.: (+992 37) 2243062
39	Republican Addiction Clinic	Dushanbe, 734025, 40 Let Pobedy Str., Tel.: (+992 37) 2342629
40	Republican Eye Centre	Dushanbe, 734036, 238 Nabiev Str., Tel.: (+992 37) 2335962
41	Republican Oncology Centre	Dushanbe, 59 I. Somoni Ave., Tel.: (+992 37) 2361408
42	Research Institute of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Pediatrics	Dushanbe, 734025, 31 M. Tursunzoda Str., Tel.: (+992 37) 2213656

43	S. Kutfidinov District Hospital	Khujand, 735700, 34 Microrayon, Tel.: (+992 3422) 63409
44	S. Urunov City Hospital	Khujand, 735700, 147 "a" Gagarin Str., Tel.: (+992 3422) 63107

### List of Insurance Companies

#	Name	Contact Information
1	State Unitary Enterprise "Tojiksugurta"	4 'a' Dehlavi Street, Dushanbe, 734025, Tajikistan Tel.: (+992 37) 227 58 49; Fax: (+992 37) 221 99 44 E-Mail: info.tojiksugurta@mail.ru Website: www.tojiksugurta.tj
	Affiliated Branches:	
2	12 Tehron Street, Dushanbe, 734025, I. Somoni district Tel.: (+992 37) 224-01-60, 238-31-73, 224-01-61	
3	22/7 Ayni Street, Dushanbe, 734004, Shohmansur district Tel.: (+992 37) 227-58-75, 227-59-19	
4	368 Lomonosov Street, Dushanbe, 734060, Sino district Tel.: (+992 37) 233-24-02, 238-16-32	
5	14 N. Karaboev Street, Dushanbe, 734018, Firdavsi district Tel.: (+992 37) 233-42-31, 233-42-31	
6	Varzob, 735000, Varzob district Tel.: (+992 3153) 521184	
7	31 Turdyev Street, 735100, Rudaki district Tel.: (+992 3137) 2-19-99	
8	23 Kuibyshev Street, 735020, Hissor district Tel.: (+992 3139) 2-79-08	
9	3 Somoni Street, 735000, Shahrinav district Tel.: (+992 3155) 3-12-18, 3-14-53	
10	1 Pioneer Street, 735000, Tursunzoda town Tel.: (+992 3130) 2-21-91, 2-15-25	
11	48 Lenin Street, 735400, Vahdat town Tel.: (+992 3136) 2-56-44, 2-37-79	
12	11 Turgenev Street, 735000, Norak town Tel.: (+992 3138) 2-24-80	
13	1 Lenin Street, 735413, Faizobod district Tel.: (+992 3135) 3-29-96, 3-29-44	
14	28/126 Gidrostroytel Street, 735417, Roghun district Tel.: (+992 3134) 2-13-65, 2-12-56	
15	Darband village, 735420, Nurobod district Tel.: (+992 3133) 3-01-43	
16	62 Lenin Street, 735450, Rasht district Tel.: (+992 3131) 2-19-59	
17	60 Lohuti Street, 735470, Jirgatal district Tel.: (+992 3132) 2-27-30	
18	Tavildara , 735000, Tavildara district Tel.: (+992 3156) 2-21-51	
19	Tojikobod, 735000, Tojikobod district Tel.: (+992 3154) 2-13-99	
20	621 Michurin Street, 735700, Sughd district Tel.: +992 83422 6-07-26	
21	Lenin Street, 735790, Shaidon town, Asht district Tel.: (+992 3453) 2-21-44	
22	31 Lenin Street, 735520, Ayni district Tel.: (+992 3479) 2-26-29	
23	31 Telman Street, 735620, Ghonchi district	

	Tel.: (+992 3464) 2-48-35
24	358 Lenin Street, 735700, Konibodom town Tel.: (+992 3467) 3-35-48, 3-61-61
25	21/1 Lenin Street, 735920, Isfara town Tel.: (+992 3462) 2-52-07
26	15 Krasnoarmeiskaya Street, 735820, J. Rasulov district Tel.: (+992 3455) 2-28-55
27	4 Hamza Street, 735880, Nau town, Spitamen district Tel.: (+992 3441) 2-12-34
28	5 Oli Somon, 735610, Uroteppa town, Istaravshan town Tel.: (+992 3454) 2-11-54
29	4 Leningrad Street, 735730, Chkalovsk town Tel.: (+992 3451) 448-17-55, 448-42-89
30	36 Ayni Street, 735750, Qairoqum town Tel.: (+992 3443) 2-37-82, 2-37-82
31	67 Lenin Street, 735880, Buston town, Matchoh district Tel.: (+992 3445) 2-23-82
32	62 Michurin Street, 735700, Khujand city Tel.: (+992 3422) 6-66-60, 6-08-64
33	16 Lenin Street, 735690, B. Ghafurov district Tel.: (+992 3442) 3-11-23
34	52 Shohin Street, 735500, Panjakent town Tel.: (+992 3475) 5-22-18
35	8 Shahrison Street, 735616, Shahrison district Tel.: (+992 3458) 2-64-23
36	4 Rudaki Street, 735660, Zafarobod district Tel.: (+992 3452) 5-23-09
37	Kuhistoni Mastchoh district Tel.: (+992 92) 760-76-76,
38	1/66 Norinov Street, Qurghonteppa town, 735140, Khatlon district Tel.: (+992 3222) 2-74-41, 2-57-36
39	206 'a' Vahdat Street, Qurghonteppa town, 735140, Khatlon district Tel.: (+992 3222) 2-40-45
40	5 Stadion Street, Somoni town, 735165, Bohtar district Tel.: (+992 3245) 2-11-55
41	7 I. Salimov Street, 735140, Vahsh district Tel.: (+992 3246) 2-39-22
42	28 Lenin Street, Yavan town, 735310, Yavan district Tel.: (+992 3141) 2-30-22
43	24 Somoniyon Street, Hojamaston town, 735120, A. Jomi district Tel.: (+992 3243) 2-38-22
44	27 Somoni Street, Obi-Kiik town, 735130, Huroson district Tel.: (+992 3240) 2-18-25
45	57 'a' Soveti Street, Isoev town, 735200, J. Rumi district Tel.: (+992 3247) 4-26-61
46	22 Kolhozchi Street, Dusti town, 735220, Qumsangir district Tel.: (+992 3249) 4-36-21
47	5 A. Karimov Street, 735214, Jilikul district Tel.: (+992 98) 577-27-87
48	54 I. Somoni Street, 735180, Shahrituz district Tel.: (+992 3240) 2-25-31
49	Bahor town, 735131, N. Hisrav district Tel.: (+992 3558) 2-20-11
50	52 Lenin Street, Kabodiyon town, 735191, Kabodiyon district Tel.: (+992 3251) 2-14-29
51	16 Dzerzhinskiy Street, 735230, Panj district

	Tel.: (+992 3252) 2-32-46
52	3 Kalinin Street, Sarband town, 735300, Sarband district Tel.: (+992 3250) 6-20-11
53	13 Somoni Street, Kulob town, 735360, Kulob district Tel.: (+992 3322) 3-48-80
54	13 Somoni Street, 73560, Kulob town Tel.: (+992 3322) 2-22-94
55	M. Mahamadaliev Street, Vose town, 735330, Vose district Tel.: (+992 91) 940-90-71
56	Lenin Street, 735370, Hamadoni district Tel.: (+992 3315) 2-31-76
57	1 Lenin Street, Farhor town, 735390, Farhor district Tel.: (+992 3316) 2-37-56
58	Vose Street, Hovaling town, 735350, Hovaling district Tel.: (+992 3317) 2-04-24
59	80 Sovetskiy Street, Danghara town, 735321, Danghara district Tel.: (+992 3312) 2-60-85, 2-51-79
60	34 Tursunzoda Street, Sovet town, 735340, Temurmalik district Tel.: (+992 3314) 2-15-15, 2-19-09
61	Baljuvon town, 735300, Baljuvon district Tel.: (+992 3357) 2-13-70
62	Shurobod town, 735301, Shurobod district Tel.: (+992 3319) 2-11-70
63	136 Nazarov Street, Muminobod town, 735365, Muminobod district Tel.: (+992 3318) 2-11-77
64	26 Lenin Street, Khorugh town, 736000, GBAO Tel.: (+992 3522) 2-23-61, 2-41-91
65	8 Ayni Street, 736300, Vanj district Tel.: (+992 3551) 2-13-14
66	1 Lenin Street, Ishkoshim town, 736500, Ishkoshim district Tel.: (+992 3553) 2-11-60
67	42 Orjonikidze Street, Murghob town, 736610, Murghob district Tel.: (+992 3554) 2-14-13, 2-13-54
68	17 Lenin Street, Rushon town, 736200, Rushon district Tel.: (+992 3556) 2-11-31, 2-10-25
69	87 K. Qirghizbek Street, Khorugh town, 736001, Shughnon district Tel.: (+992 3557) 2-74-02, 2-26-32
70	17 Sarhadchi Street, Darvoz town, 736400, Darvoz district Tel.: (+992 3552) 2-14-92, 2-19-15
71	Roshtqala district, 736112 Tel.: (+992 3555) 2-11-52

## 7. EMIGRATION AND RETURN MIGRATION

### 7.1. General Information

Labour migration has become one the most important socioeconomic push factors influencing the decision of hundreds of thousands of Tajik nationals to migrate (Table 3). The Russian Federation remains the leading destination for Tajik migrants allowing them to find employment opportunities and thus remit money to Tajikistan, which represents an important share of the country's GDP and sufficient to support their families back home. Remitted money allows migrant families left behind to buy more food and pay for school fees.

#### Departures for employment abroad and returns by gender, 2013 (January - August)<sup>190</sup>

Country	Departed migrant workers			Returned migrant workers		
	(m)	(f)	(total)	(m)	(f)	(total)
Russian Federation	531,918	68,992	600,910	284,750	49,452	334,202
Kazakhstan	6,114	1,035	7,149	3,594	587	4,181
The Kyrgyz Republic	285	126	411	183	519	702
Ukraine	64	11	75	22	11	33
Azerbaijan	20	1	21	3	0	3
Afghanistan	375	164	539	271	125	396
Islamic Republic of Iran	147	5	152	107	5	112
Turkey	69	126	195	219	49	268
China	121	72	193	61	47	108
Germany	8	0	8	94	20	114
Saudi Arabia	182	16	198	87	17	104
<b>Total</b>	<b>539,303</b>	<b>70,548</b>	<b>609,851</b>	<b>289,391</b>	<b>50,832</b>	<b>340,223</b>

Source: Migration Service of the Republic of Tajikistan.

Tajikistan registers and counts outflows and inflows based on migration cards filled out at airports, railway stations, and other border crossings. Having filled out a card, a migrant should give it to a border guard who then sends it to a migration service representative to input the information into a database.

According to the Federal Migration Service (FMS) of the Russian Federation, there were more than 1,145,713 migrants from Tajikistan as of November 2013 in the Russian Federation, of whom 962,292 were men and above 183,421 women (see table below). The recent estimates indicate that the total number of male Tajik migrant workers in the Russian Federation has decreased about 49,000 while the number of female migrants increased by 1,000 people.

<sup>190</sup> Migration Service under the Ministry of Labor, Migration and Population Employment, Information Department, Official statistics for the period from January-August 2013.

**Profile of migrants in the Russian Federation by age and sex recorded as of 13 November 2013<sup>191</sup>**

Age group	Sex		Total
	(m)	(f)	
<17	90,301	36,461	126,762
18-29	493,709	64,873	558,582
30-39	213,893	45,737	259,630
40-49	123,940	25,435	158,375
50-59	35,948	8,275	44,223
>60	4,501	2,640	7,141
Total:	962,292	183,421	1,145,713

Source: Federal Migration Service of the Russian Federation (2013).

According to the Asian Development Bank (ADB), Tajik nationals have remitted USD 3.8 billion in 2012, which accounts for almost 47 per cent of the country's GDP. Equally, some experts say it would not have been possible to withstand serious social crises without migrants' remittances.<sup>192</sup>

Tajikistan's per capita income is still the lowest in Central Asia, according to data from the ADB's project on reforming Tajikistan's investment climate. Low employment opportunities and prospects influenced 40 per cent of the population to migrate abroad.

The economic growth in Tajikistan can be mainly attributed to the high remittance flows to the country. The World Bank data show that the Gross Domestic Product per capita in Tajikistan was recorded at USD 872.3 in 2012, which is the lowest indicator among the Central Asian states. The highest GDP per capita was recorded in Kazakhstan (USD 12,006.6) and Turkmenistan (USD 6,510.6), while in Uzbekistan it reached about USD 1,717 and nearly USD 1,160 in the Kyrgyz Republic.

The main factor of continuous outflow of people is not the lack of work possibilities in Tajikistan but the extremely low wage rates, which officially account for 10 to 11 per cent of the average salary in the Russian Federation. It is equivalent to EUR 60 – EU 70 per month. However, actual average salaries in Tajikistan do not even account for 5-8 per cent of the Russian rates. As a result, the issues of survival and income are a driving factor for the decision to emigrate.<sup>193</sup>

Based on official data of Central Bank of Russia, remittance flows from the Russian Federation into Tajikistan were above USD 3 billion over the period from January to September 2013, which made Tajikistan the second largest receiver of remittances after Uzbekistan with USD 4.9 billion. However, Tajikistan has become a leader (26%) in terms of remittance transactions followed by Uzbekistan (24%), the Kyrgyz Republic (15%) and Ukraine (14%), respectively. The highest remittances inflows per transaction are registered to Kazakhstan and Azerbaijan (approximately 19,000 Russian Roubles), while transactions to Tajikistan and the Kyrgyz Republic are considered the lowest (about 10,000 Russian Roubles). Interfax reports, for the period January-September 2013, net remittance inflows from the Russian Federation to Tajikistan reached USD 2,687 million which is 12.3 per cent

<sup>191</sup> ASIA-Plus Online Newspaper, FMS RF: Na 13 noyabrya v Rossii nahodilos' bollee 1 mln. 146 tys. grazhdan Tadjikistana., 25 November 2013, <http://news.tj/ru/news/fms-rf-na-13-noyabrya-v-rossii-nakhodilos-bolee-1-mln-146-tys-grazhdan-tadjikistana> accessed on 10/01/2014.

<sup>192</sup> BBC, Dushanbe obespokoen nastroyeniyami migrantov, 26 September 2013, [http://www.bbc.co.uk/russian/international/2013/09/130925\\_tajik\\_labour\\_migrants\\_politics.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/russian/international/2013/09/130925_tajik_labour_migrants_politics.shtml) accessed on 10/01/2014.

<sup>193</sup> Ministry for the Economic Development of the Russian Federation, Obzor SMI Tadjikistana za period s 14.08.2013 po 30.08.2013 g., 30 August 2013, [http://www.ved.gov.ru/exportcountries/tj/tj\\_ru\\_relations/tj\\_news/10641.html](http://www.ved.gov.ru/exportcountries/tj/tj_ru_relations/tj_news/10641.html) accessed on 10/01/2014.

higher than remittance inflows in the same period in 2012, with reference to the National Bank of Tajikistan. Gross remittance inflows (excluding backflow) from the Russian Federation by Tajik migrant workers accounted for USD 3.52 billion (16.9 % increase). Remittance outflows from Tajikistan to the Russian Federation reached USD 365 million (68.2% increase). The average amount per transaction made is USD 355. During the period January to September 2013, net remittance inflows from the Russian Federation to Tajikistan's GDP made 46.7 per cent, which is 0.5 per cent increase than a year before.<sup>194</sup>

## 7.2. Reintegration Support for Returnees

According to the Director of the State Agency for Social Protection and Population Employment (SASPPEM), it is necessary to develop a mechanism aimed at assisting migrants as a result of deportation and administrative expulsion. In the past, SASPPEM relied on its three Reintegration Support Centres (RSCs) located in Dushanbe, Qurghonteppa and Khujand. Today, these centres do not function because it is still unclear who should be dealing and offering various types of assistance to returnees. There is also no need in establishing additional RSCs in the light of unsustainable funding conditions.<sup>195</sup>

## 7.3. Non-Governmental/International Programs and Initiatives

To help promote policies and institutional procedures, in 2010 the International Organization for Migration jointly with UNWOMEN, and the World Bank with financial support from the UK Department for International Development (DFID) initiated a Central Asia Regional Migration Programme (CARMP) to respect, protect and fulfill migrant workers' rights throughout the migration cycle. This programme concerns labour migration in sending and receiving countries and it has played a key part in protecting the rights and enhancing the social and economic opportunities for migrant men, women and their families in poverty-stricken Central Asian states and Tajikistan, in particular.

Besides, the Migrant Support Centres (MSC) operating in Tajikistan since 2004 have a special role in providing information and counseling to many individual migrants and the general public on legal information about travels, border crossing, customs check, housing, registration, work permit, employment agencies, travel and employment risks including human trafficking, information about access to medical service, medical insurance, taxation, remittance and about administrative punishment of violations of arrival orders.

Within the period 2010 to 2013, the MSCs have provided the following set of services to beneficiaries covered by the programme.<sup>196</sup>

Type of Services	Total (m f)	(m)	(f)
Telephone Consultation	6,890	5,575	1,315
Face to Face Consultation and Legal Assistance to intending economic migrants and their families	15,189	12,365	2,824
Mobile Consultation	33,592	23,124	10,468
Referral Assistance	1,956	1,678	278

<sup>194</sup> NEWS.Ru Online Newspaper, Grazhdane Tadzhiqistana postavili rekord po perevodam is Rossii – bolle 3 mlrd dollarov. NEWSru, 31 December 2013, [http://txt.newsru.com/finance/31dec2013/tajik\\_transfert.html](http://txt.newsru.com/finance/31dec2013/tajik_transfert.html) accessed on 10/01/2014.

<sup>195</sup> Information from a meeting with the Director of the State Agency for Social Protection and Population Employment of the Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Population Employment on 30 August 2013.

<sup>196</sup> Final Progress Report to the UK Government "Central Asia Regional Migration Programme." Final donor report March 2010-July 2013, IOM Mission to Tajikistan, Dushanbe.

Information Sessions	22,198	14,335	7,863
Case Management of Migrant Workers' Complaints and Appeals	1,232	1,108	124

Source: IOM Final Narrative Report to DFID.

The MSCs continued providing assistance and services to migrant workers and population at large in 2013 despite the programme completion. To date, they have been providing significant assistance especially with cases of deportation and administrative expulsion of Tajik nationals from the Russian Federation.

IOM now coordinates five MSCs throughout Tajikistan in Ayni, Khujand, Tojikobod, and two in Dushanbe where migrant workers have access to up-to-date information on safe and legal migration. These centers are funded through the Regional Migration Programme with the support of the UK Government and seven more are to be established with the financial support of the Government of Norway and the European Union. The MSCs play an important role in providing in-office and mobile legal consultation to families affected by migration, referral services to migrant families, access to income generation and/or economic empowerment counseling services, capacity building trainings for government officials, local NGOs and community at large, as well as public campaigns on issues concerning human trafficking, safer migration and health practices.<sup>197</sup>

## 7.4. Migration Related Challenges

Apart from positive aspects labour migration can have certain negative effects such as labour and sexual exploitation, health-related problems, including injuries and disabilities as a result of exposure to hazardous environments, as well as a high incidence of death among migrant workers. Another set of specific problems includes the difficulties in obtaining a legal status, the violation of labour rights in the country of destination, deception by recruitment agencies and employers, the lack of social and legal protection, inaccessibility of health-care services, and family disruption. People are frustrated when they approach legal organizations and state structures to ask for assistance because of the high corruption in Tajikistan and the Russian Federation. Despite these difficulties, labour migration is the only way to support families left behind. Most of the migrant workers are seasonal or they work up to 1-2 years in the Russian Federation and then return home for 2-3 months to spend some time with their families.

At present, a significant number of Tajik migrants encounter re-entry bans and administrative expulsion by Russian authorities. Since October 2011, the Russian Federation has put in use a system to monitor and track foreign and stateless persons, which allows authorities to register foreigners and identify violators who are then banned from re-entering the country. The incidence of bans and involuntary returns of Tajik migrant workers has increased since then. Tajik nationals become aware of imposed re-entry bans and administrative expulsion, normally ranging from three to five years, before their departure from the Russian Federation. However, many migrants found out that they are "undesirable" only upon their arrival to the country of destination at a border checkpoint. Thus, delays in information exchange between sending and receiving countries places migrant workers in a situation when they have no money for a return ticket. According to the Federal Security Service (FSS) of the Russian Federation, as of 1 October 2013, 71,557 Tajik nationals are denied entry into the country. Some updated figures were reported by the Head of the Federal Migration Service (FMS) of the Russian Federation, Konstantin Romodanovskiy, speaking at

<sup>197</sup> IOM Terms of Reference for Migrant Support Centers.

the lower house of the Russian parliament "In 2013, 440,000 foreigners including 90,000 Tajik citizens are denied entry into the Russian Federation."<sup>198</sup>

Analyzing the current situation in Tajikistan, IOM jointly with the Migration Service of Tajikistan provide important and needed assistance to Tajik citizens with re-entry bans in the form of information counseling, checking if they are in the FSS list, writing and sending letters of inquiry to FMS and FSS to solicit their response to the reasons and duration of bans imposed on Tajik nationals. Such assistance is very important as it helps people to save the money they want to spend to buy a ticket back to the Russian Federation

## 7.5. Return of Unaccompanied Minors

Tajikistan like many other countries has certain rules regarding unaccompanied minors. However, it is important to note that these norms are intended for children who are sent by their parents to neighboring countries to have a rest or visit their relatives. The two Tajik air carriers - Tajik and Somon Air - have different policies for accepting unaccompanied minors. Tajik Air offers unaccompanied minor service for children from eight to 12 years of age, while Somon Air provides such services for children from five to 16 years of age. Any child traveling without one of the parents must have a notarized letter from the absent parent granting permission for the child to travel.<sup>199</sup>

Tickets for unaccompanied minors can be obtained only if purchasing directly from any ticket offices. According to Somon Air policy, unaccompanied minors may only travel on flights not requiring a change of aircraft. A child is given a separate seat in the aircraft and a free standard baggage is allowed.<sup>200</sup>

Documents required for sending an unaccompanied minor to a country of destination include: (i) a ticket, (ii) an unaccompanied minor request for carriage form available at ticket offices and airports, which is filled out and signed by parents (adopters, guardians, etc.), and (iii) a child's birth certificate.

Minors found in difficult and stressful situations such as psychological, physical or sexual abuse should be returned and accompanied by state authorities of a country of origin. In the context of Tajikistan, it is the Ministries of Foreign and Internal Affairs responsible for providing return assistance to unaccompanied minors in accordance with the Cooperation Agreement between the CIS states signed in Chisinau on 7 October 2002. Upon return, minors are placed in a Reception Centre of the Ministry of Interior. The Reception Centre is situated in the capital of Tajikistan and has twenty-five employees who provide services to children who are under the age of 18. In 2010, the centre provided services to 418 minors including those who are in conflict with the law for committing petty crimes such as vagrancy, truancy, begging or alcohol use as well as unaccompanied minors and victims of violence, labour and sexual abuse who constitute vulnerable groups. The social services to minors are provided for a period not exceeding thirty days and include: medical treatment, psychosocial assistance, legal aid and counseling, accommodation and nutrition services.<sup>201</sup>

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<sup>198</sup> Stan Radar, FMS RF zakryla vyezd na territoriyu Rossii 90 tys., tadjikistsantsam, Stan Radar, 23 December 2013, <http://www.stanradar.com/news/full/6714-fms-rf-zakryla-vezd-na-territoriju-rossii-90-tys-tadjikistsantsam.html> accessed on 10/01/2014.

<sup>199</sup> Tajik airlines, Dokumenty neobhodimye dlya perelyota, <http://www.tajikair.tj/passenger/documents/> accessed on 30/01/2014.

<sup>200</sup> Somini Air, Novye pravila primeneniya aviabiletov dlya detei i mladentsev na mezhdunarodnyh vozdushnyh liniyah Aviakompanii "Somon Air", <http://www.somonair.com/ru/children.php>, accessed on 30/01/2014.

<sup>201</sup> For further details please see project description of European Commission, Sotsialnye uslugi v Tadjikistane, Priyomnik raspredelitel dlya nesovershennoletnih, <http://mappingru.sdc-eu.info/3.htm> accessed on 19/05/2014.

## 7.6. Links and Contacts

### **The Ministry of Labour, Migration, and Population Employment of the Republic of Tajikistan**

734026, Dushanbe city, Navoi Street, 5/2

Tel.: (+992 37) 235 03 84

Website: [www.mehnat.tj](http://www.mehnat.tj)

### **The Migration Service of the Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Population Employment**

734063, Dushanbe city, Aini Street, 121

Tel.: (+992 37) 225 05 71; Fax: (+992 37) 225 05 72

E-mail: [press@migration.tj](mailto:press@migration.tj)  
[muhojirat\\_tj@mail.ru](mailto:muhojirat_tj@mail.ru)

Website: [www.migration.tj](http://www.migration.tj)

### **The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Tajikistan**

734001, Dushanbe city, Sheroz Street, 33

Tel.: (+ 992 37) 221 05 51; 221 18 08; Fax: (+ 992 37) 221 02 59

E-mail: [info@mfa.tj](mailto:info@mfa.tj)

Website: [www.mfa.tj](http://www.mfa.tj)

### **The Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Tajikistan**

734025, Dushanbe city, Tehran Street, 29

Tel.: (+ 992 37) 221 08 30; 227 98 98

E-mail: [vkd.tj@mail.ru](mailto:vkd.tj@mail.ru)

Website: [www.vkd.tj](http://www.vkd.tj)

### **The State Agency for Social Protection, Population Employment and Migration of the Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Population Employment**

734026, Dushanbe city, Navoi Street, 5/6

Tel.: (+ 992 37) 235 15 25

### **The Adult Training Centre**

734026, Dushanbe city, Navoi Street, 5/1

Tel.: (+ 992 37) 235 18 70; Fax: (+ 992 37) 236 19 05

E-mail: [mtktjk@gmail.com](mailto:mtktjk@gmail.com)

### **Somon Air**

734012, Dushanbe city, Mirzo Mastongulov (former Titova) Street, 40

Tel.: (+ 992 44) 640 40 40/50; Fax: (+ 992 44) 640 12 34

E-mail: [info@somonair.com](mailto:info@somonair.com)

Website: [www.somonair.com](http://www.somonair.com)

### **Tajik Air**

734012, Dushanbe city, Mirzo Mastongulov (former Titova) Street, 32/1

Tel.: (+ 992 48) 701 50 70; Fax: (+ 992 ) 48 701 50 68

E-mail: [info@tajikairlines.com](mailto:info@tajikairlines.com)

Website: [www.tajikair.tj](http://www.tajikair.tj)

### **List of Migrant Support Centres operating in the Republic of Tajikistan**

	<b>Migrant Support Centres</b>	<b>Contact Information</b>
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	MSC in Ayni	55 Rudaki Street; Tel.: (+992 92) 7669364; E-Mail: kkhairandesh@gmail.com
	MSC in Khujand	32 Tanburi Street, Apartment 33; Tel.: (+992 91) 8731884 E-Mail: azalkhon@gmail.com
	MSC in Tojikobod	26 Somoni Street; Tel.: (+992 91) 823 05 47; E-Mail: surhob@inbox.ru
	MSC under the Department of Migration Service of Tajikistan	37 Rudaki Avenue; Tel.: (+992 90) 5058895; E-Mail: uavezov@gmail.com
	MSC in Dushanbe	22 'A' Vtoroy Proezd Azizbekov Street; Tel.: (+992 37) 221-03-02; E-Mail: <a href="mailto:dushanbeinfo@iom.int">dushanbeinfo@iom.int</a>

## 8. VULNERABLE GROUPS

In Tajikistan, the population is exposed to economic, political, and social vulnerabilities. These vulnerabilities can be created by social exclusion, lack of access to natural resources, dependency on public services, lack of representation for their very interests, and little means for mitigating threats to their livelihoods.

About 10 per cent of Tajikistan's population of 7 million works abroad as labor migrants. The motivating factors for this labor migration are unemployment and a need for better wages. Many of Tajikistan's labor migrants are men and are mostly from rural areas. As these men go abroad to work as labor migrants, they may divorce their wives through SMS text messages as they find other partners in destination countries such as the Russian Federation or find it difficult to reintegrate into life and responsibilities in Tajikistan. Abandoned by their husbands, these women face a number of obstacles including the difficulty of securing alimony payments from their husbands, lack of housing, lack of legal documentation, and lack of technical skills to generate their own income. They are also exposed to psychological and health problems such as HIV/AIDS, depression as a result of reduced social status, and in some cases suicide. Men who abandon their wives and families in Tajikistan are putting their wives and children at an economic, social, and psychological disadvantage. The fact that these women are abandoned leaves them exposed to abusive in-laws or male relatives. At times men who are migrating may force these women into careers where they are also exposed to both physical and sexual abuse. Although gender equality is protected by the Constitution of the Republic of Tajikistan, current figures indicate that one in three women have experienced domestic violence.<sup>202</sup>

The Law # 954 of the Republic of Tajikistan "On Domestic Violence" was adopted on 19 March 2013.<sup>203</sup> The law provides free medical and legal assistance to domestic violence victims in addition to family and psychological counseling as means to prevent domestic violence before it occurs.<sup>204</sup> In Tajikistan, women who are experiencing violence may apply to mahallahs, jamoats<sup>205</sup>, or women's committees instead of the police.

The OSCE Mission in Tajikistan constructed the first shelter in the country for victims of domestic violence in Sughd oblast. In February 2010, a new, larger comprehensive-care shelter for women and children was inaugurated. The local authorities in Sughd have allowed the NGO "Gulruksor," which operates the shelter, to use the building without paying rent for 12 years.<sup>206</sup> According to the information from the Committee of Women's and Family Affairs more than 20 crisis centres for the victims of domestic violence have been established and are functional in different parts of the country.<sup>207</sup>

IOM operates three shelters for victims of trafficking in the country. The two shelters are based in Dushanbe providing direct assistance for female and male victims of trafficking. The third shelter is located in the Sughd region, which is established to assist children. Since 1 April 2013 the operation of the shelters has been transferred to the local civil society organizations NGO "Femida" in Dushanbe and NGO "Women and Society" in Sughd region partnering with IOM under the Counter Trafficking Program.

<sup>202</sup> Swiss Cooperation, "Prevention of Domestic Violence in Tajikistan" project, undated, [http://www.swisscooperation.admin.ch/centralasia/en/Home/Activities\\_in\\_Tajikistan/RULE\\_OF\\_LAW/Prevention\\_of\\_Domestic\\_Violence\\_in\\_Tajikistan\\_Phase\\_VIII](http://www.swisscooperation.admin.ch/centralasia/en/Home/Activities_in_Tajikistan/RULE_OF_LAW/Prevention_of_Domestic_Violence_in_Tajikistan_Phase_VIII) accessed on 12/01/2014.

<sup>203</sup> Zakon Respubliki Tadjikistan "O preduprezhdenii nasiliya v semye", <http://mmk.tj/ru/legislation/legislation-base/250/>, accessed on 14/01/2014.

<sup>204</sup> The Advocates for Human Rights, *Violence Against Women in Tajikistan*, December 2012, <http://www.stopvaw.org/tajikistan>, accessed on 12/01/2014.

<sup>205</sup> Administrative divisions, similar to communes or municipalities.

<sup>206</sup> OSCE Tajikistan: Ensuring availability of crisis and community services, <http://www.osce.org/tajikistan/43672> accessed on 15/01/2014.

<sup>207</sup> The speech of the Chairperson of the Committee of Women's and Family Affairs, Russian, <http://www.osce.org/gender/34815>, page 4, accessed on 15/01/2014.

There are reports of Tajik children subjected to sex trafficking and forced labor, including forced begging, within Tajikistan and in Afghanistan. The forced prostitution and debt bondage of Tajik women and girls in Afghanistan sometimes occurs through forced marriages to Afghan men. Some Tajik children and possibly some adults were subjected to agricultural forced labor in Tajikistan – mainly during the fall 2012 cotton harvest – but this exploitation occurred to a lesser degree than in 2011.<sup>208</sup>

## **8.1. Links and Contacts**

### **The Committee for Women's and Family Affairs under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan**

734013, Dushanbe city, Lohuti Street, 14

Tel.: (+ 992 37) 221 34 71; 223 46 33; Fax: (+ 992 37) 227 17 41

Website: [www.kumitaizanon.tj](http://www.kumitaizanon.tj)

### **The Public Association Women's Centre "Gulruhsor"**

735700, Khujand city, R. Nabiev Street, 111

Tel.: (+ 992 3422) 6 05 81; (+ 992 92) 780 40 74; Fax: (+ 992 98) 750 40 74

Hotline: (+ 992 3422) 6 05 10

E-mail: [gulruhsor\\_82@mail.ru](mailto:gulruhsor_82@mail.ru)

Website: [www.gulruhsor.tj](http://www.gulruhsor.tj)

### **The Public Association "Women and Society"**

735700, Khujand city, Khujandi Street, 142/6

Tel.: (+ 992 3422) 6 01 27

E-mail: [aws061@rambler.ru](mailto:aws061@rambler.ru)

### **The Public Association Tajik Centre for Social and Legal Support of Women and Teenagers "Femida"**

734001, Dushanbe city, Rudaki Avenue, 93/1

Tel.: (+ 992 37) 224 76 20

E-mail: [femida-tj@mail.ru](mailto:femida-tj@mail.ru)

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<sup>208</sup> US Department of State, Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, *2013 Trafficking in Persons Report*, <http://www.state.gov/j/tip/rls/tiprpt/countries/2013/215631.htm> accessed on 19/05/2014.

## 9. LIST OF CONTACTS IN ENGLISH AND RUSSIAN

### **The Agency on Statistics under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan**

734025, Dushanbe city, Bokhtar Street, 17  
Tel.: (+ 992 37) 223 02 45; Fax: (+ 992 37) 221 43 75  
E-mail: [stat@tojikiston.com](mailto:stat@tojikiston.com)  
Website: [www.stat.tj](http://www.stat.tj)

### **Агентство по статистике при Президенте Республики Таджикистан**

734025, город Душанбе, улица Бохтар 17  
Тел.: (+ 992 37) 223 02 45; 223 46 33; Факс: (+ 992 37) 221 43 75  
Электронная почта: [stat@tojikiston.com](mailto:stat@tojikiston.com)  
Веб-сайт: [www.stat.tj](http://www.stat.tj)

### **The National Bank of Tajikistan**

734003, Dushanbe city, Rudaki Avenue, 107 A  
Tel.: (+ 992 44) 600 32 27; Fax: (+ 992 44) 600 32 55  
E-mail: [info@nbt.tj](mailto:info@nbt.tj)  
Website: [www.nbt.tj](http://www.nbt.tj)

### **Национальный банк Таджикистана**

734003, город Душанбе, проспект Рудаки 107 А  
Тел.: (+ 992 44) 600 32 27; Факс: (+ 992 44) 600 32 55  
Электронная почта: [info@nbt.tj](mailto:info@nbt.tj)  
Веб-сайт: [www.nbt.tj](http://www.nbt.tj)

### **The Executive Office of President of the Republic of Tajikistan**

734023, Dushanbe city, Rudaki Avenue, 80  
Tel.: (+ 992 37) 221 68 00; Fax: (+ 992 37) 221 25 20  
Website: [www.president.tj](http://www.president.tj)

### **Исполнительный аппарат Президента Республики Таджикистан**

734023, город Душанбе, проспект Рудаки 80  
Тел.: (+ 992 37) 221 68 00; Факс: (+ 992 37) 221 25 20  
Веб-сайт: [www.president.tj](http://www.president.tj)

### **The Ministry of Labour, Migration, and Population Employment of the Republic of Tajikistan**

734026, Dushanbe city, Navoi Street, 5/2  
Tel.: (+ 992 37) 235 03 84; 236 11 59; Fax: (+ 992 37) 235 18 18  
Website: [www.mehnat.tj](http://www.mehnat.tj)

### **Министерство труда, миграции и занятости населения Республики Таджикистан**

734026, город Душанбе, улица Навои, 5/2  
Тел.: (+ 992 37) 235 03 84; 236 11 59, 235 18 18; Факс: (+ 992 37) 235 18 18  
Веб-сайт: [www.mehnat.tj](http://www.mehnat.tj)

### **The State Committee for Construction and Architecture under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan**

734025, Dushanbe city, Huseinzade Street, 36  
Tel.: (+ 992 37) 2218853; 2218833; 2231882; 2216143

### **Государственный комитет по строительству и архитектуре при Правительстве Республики Таджикистан**

734025, город Душанбе, улица Хусейнзаде 36  
Тел.: (+ 992 37) 2218853; 2218833; 2231882; 2216143

**The Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Tajikistan**

734025, Dushanbe city, Academics Rajabovykh Street, 3

Tel.: (+ 992 37) 222 33 53; Fax: (+ 992 37) 227 19 87

Website: [www.minfin.tj](http://www.minfin.tj)

**Министерство финансов Республики Таджикистан**

734025, город Душанбе, улица Академиков Раджабовых 3

Тел.: (+ 992 37) 222 33 53; Факс: (+ 992 37) 227 19 87

Веб-сайт: [www.minfin.tj](http://www.minfin.tj)

**The Ministry of Education of the Republic of Tajikistan**

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**Министерство образования Республики Таджикистан**

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**The Ministry of Health and Social Protection of Population of the Republic of Tajikistan**

734025, Dushanbe city, Shevchenko Street, 69

Tel.: (+ 992 37) 221 12 48; (+ 992 44) 600 60 02; Fax: (+ 992 37) 221 75 25

E-mail: [info@moh.tj](mailto:info@moh.tj)

Website: [www.health.tj](http://www.health.tj)

**Министерство здравоохранения и социальной защиты населения Республики Таджикистан**

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Электронная почта: [info@moh.tj](mailto:info@moh.tj)

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**The Migration Service of the Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Population Employment**

734063, Dushanbe city, Aini Street, 121

Tel.: (+ 992 37) 225 05 71; Fax: (+ 992 37) 225 05 72

E-mail: [press@migration.tj](mailto:press@migration.tj)

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Website: [www.migration.tj](http://www.migration.tj)

**Миграционная служба Министерства труда, миграции и занятости населения Республики Таджикистан**

734063, город Душанбе, улица Айни 121

Тел.: (+ 992 37) 225 05 71; Факс: (+ 992 37) 225 05 72

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[press@migration.tj](mailto:press@migration.tj)

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Веб-сайт: [www.migration.tj](http://www.migration.tj)

**The State Agency for Social Protection, Population Employment and Migration of the Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Population Employment**

734026, Dushanbe city, Navoi Street, 5/6

Tel.: (+ 992 37) 235 15 25

**Государственное агентство по социальной защите, занятости населения и миграции Министерства труда, миграции и занятости населения Республики Таджикистан**

734026, город Душанбе, улица Навои 5/6

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**The Adult Training Centre**

734026, Dushanbe city, Navoi Street, 5/1

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E-mail: [mtktjk@gmail.com](mailto:mtktjk@gmail.com)

**Центр обучения для взрослых**

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**The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Tajikistan**

734001, Dushanbe city, Sheroz Street, 33

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Website: [www.mfa.tj](http://www.mfa.tj)

**Министерство иностранных дел Республики Таджикистан**

734001, город Душанбе, улица Шероз 33

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**The Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Tajikistan**

734025, Dushanbe city, Tehran Street, 29

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**Министерство внутренних дел Республики Таджикистан**

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**Somon Air**

734012, Dushanbe city, Mirzo Mastongulov (former Titova) Street, 40

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**The Committee for Women's and Family Affairs under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan**

734013, Dushanbe city, Lohuti Street, 14

Tel.: (+ 992 37) 221 34 71; 223 46 33; Fax: (+ 992 37) 227 17 41

Website: [www.kumitaizanon.tj](http://www.kumitaizanon.tj)

**Комитет по делам женщин и семьи при правительстве Республики Таджикистан**

734013, город Душанбе, улица Лохути 14

Тел.: (+ 992 37) 221 34 71; 223 46 33; Факс: (+ 992 37) 227 17 41

Веб-сайт: [www.kumitaizanon.tj](http://www.kumitaizanon.tj)

**The Public Association Women's Centre "Gulruhsor"**

735700, Khujand city, R. Nabiev Street, 111

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Hotline: (+ 992 3422) 6 05 10

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**Общественная ассоциация Центр женщин "Гулрухсор"**

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**The Public Association "Women and Society"**

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**The Public Association Tajik Centre for Social and Legal Support of Women and Teenagers "Femida"**

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