

# 2014

United Nations in Tajikistan

Development partners and international agencies

## Tajikistan Inter-agency Youth Theme Group



## ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT – 2013

This is an Annual Progress Report of the Tajikistan Youth Theme Group (TYTG). The given Report provides an overview of the performed activities and the results achieved by the Group throughout 2013. The reporting period is 5 February – 31 December, 2013

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## ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AFEW	AIDS Foundation East-West
DDPs	District Development Programmes
GBAO	Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Oblast
GIZ	German Society for International Cooperation
OSI	Open Society Institute
NGO	Non-Government Organizations
ILO	International Labour Organization
TYTG	Tajikistan Youth Thematic Group
UN	United Nations
UNDEF	United Nations Democracy Fund
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNOPS	United Nations Office for Project Services
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
UNV	United Nations Volunteers
VSO	Volunteer Services Overseas
Y-PEER	Youth Peer Education Network
AWP	Annual Working Plan

## SECTION I. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The population of Tajikistan is 8 million, including asylum seekers, refugees and stateless people, of which over 72 percent live in rural areas. Tajikistan is categorized as a young nation with 15-29 age group comprising 31% of total population and almost a 70 % of population under 30. According to some estimates, over 800.000 citizens of Tajikistan, mostly young men have been working outside the country annually due to the high local unemployment rates.

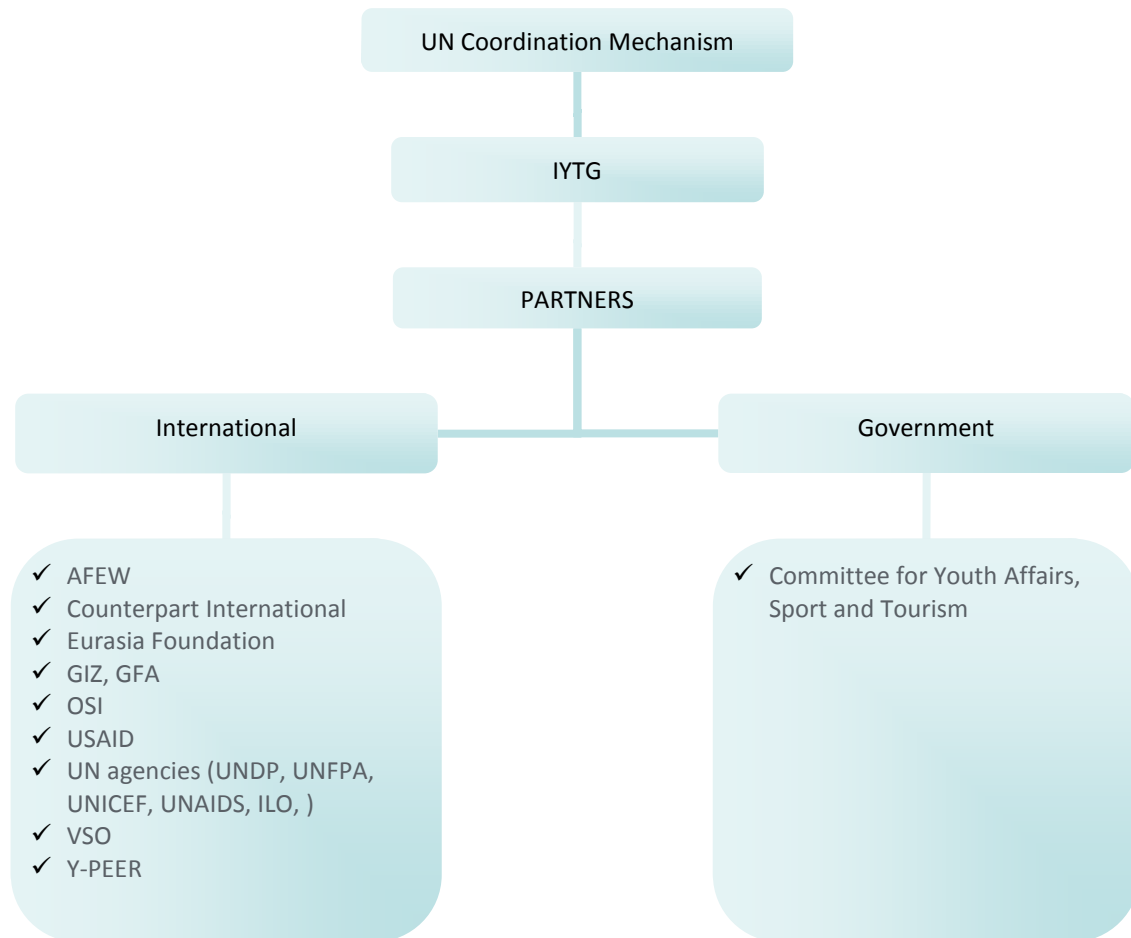
Youth face significant problems in the country, in particular, access to quality social services, including education, unemployment and limited access to decent work and migration as a result; issues related to health, in particular reproductive health. Family planning issues, stigmatization, discrimination, spread of HIV and STIs are also one of the main problems for young people in Tajikistan. As a mountainous country Tajikistan has difficult and dangerous terrain and is

prone to various disasters which places at risk mostly women, children and young people.

Representatives of the UN agencies and international organizations present in Tajikistan who have programmes related to youth in their agenda decided to unite their efforts in delivering quality results. Youth Theme Group was established in January, 2013 by representatives of major UN and international agencies working in the sphere of youth to strengthen cooperation; share the information and best practices and lay the foundations for further possible joint programmes.

The mission of the Youth Theme Group is to unite the efforts of all actors working in the sphere of youth to create enabling environment for young people to fully explore and utilize their potential and promote youth participation in the country development.

### The general structure of the TYTG:



## SECTION II. ACTIVITIES RESULTS

### 2.1 Activities done by the IYTG in 2013

The Interagency Youth Theme Group of Tajikistan was established in January 2013 by representatives of major UN and international agencies working in the sphere of youth in Tajikistan. The Group's TOR has been elaborated and approved by the members<sup>1</sup>.

The 1<sup>st</sup> meeting has been conducted on 5<sup>th</sup> of February 2013, which was hosted and chaired by the UNFPA. During the year 8 regular meetings have been conducted:

Date	Hosted/Chaired
February, 2	UNFPA
March, 14	UNFPA
April, 12	UNFPA
May, 8	UNFPA
June, 27	UNFPA
September, 13	UNFPA
October, 16	UNFPA
November, 13	USAID

The following activities have been done in 2013:

- ✓ The meetings with young people were conducted countrywide for discussion of UN – Youth Consultations on MDGs;
- ✓ ILO launched the new phase of its project related to the access of youth to decent work, which is aiming to ensure stability and prosperity through the access to decent and Safe Work, focusing on occupational safety and health and social security the safety in the workplace;
- ✓ The Group's Mapping Document has been formulated and all the agency-members have incorporated their activities into the Mapping Documents;
- ✓ The Group's Annual Work Plan for 2013 has been elaborated and agreed among the members

<sup>1</sup>[http://untj.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=188&Itemid=640](http://untj.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=188&Itemid=640)



- ✓ OSI in Tajikistan made a presentation devoted to the “lost generation” in Tajikistan. The main topic of the presentation was about age group between 19 and 22 years old in Tajikistan, which can be considered as the “lost generation”, because they have missed some of their education due to the Civil War in the 90ies. They face problems like labor migration to Russia, unemployment etc. The presentation had the following aims:
  - To understand the influence of civil war to formation of social behavior of the youth in Tajikistan;
  - Identify key actions for involvement of such youth to social life;
  - To consider importance of the early childhood development and early education for children



- ✓ The Statement of the TYTG to the President of Tajikistan devoted to the Tajikistan Youth Day has been formulated and addressed;



The meeting and discussion with the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)/United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)/United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) have been conducted and the issues related to the youth policy in Tajikistan have been raised. The Executive Board expressed appreciation to the Group's members for the active and effective participation in youth policy promotion in Tajikistan (**Annex I**)



- ✓ The UNDP Tajikistan Communities Programme presented local development planning processes approach (District Development Programmes), which is covering youth development priorities at the local level



- Participatory approach in DDP elaboration process, which is allowing involvement of all stakeholders: local authorities, civil society, NGOs, private sector etc. (including youth and gender aspects)



- ✓ UNICEF has conducted a survey on Children and Violence, which was presented to decision makers in Tajikistan, within the campaign '16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence';
- ✓ Counterpart has finished the first draft of 'Civic Education' for 14 – 17 year old children;

- ✓ UNFPA has conducted training for medical specialists on provision of SRH services to most at risk youth;
- ✓ UNFPA has produced a PSA for the "16 Days of Activism against Gender Violence" that was shown on Safina TV station. UNFPA has also produced textbooks for students and manuals for teachers about Healthy Lifestyle;
- ✓ Eurasia Foundation supported the Youth Parliament in GBAO. In collaboration with UNDEF and the Government of GBAO small grants are provided. Debate tournaments were held in 6 regions, and a research paper was jointly produced with the World Bank;
- ✓ UNV conducted an event for International Volunteer Day in Kurgan-Tyube, in collaboration with a local NGO. UNV has selected a winner of Online Volunteering;



- ✓ The messages have been sent on behalf of the group on World Youth Day and International Volunteers Day;
- ✓ The presentation has been delivered on YFS and Million Hours project;
- ✓ The YFHS presentation has been delivered.



## SECTION III. ANNUAL WORK PLAN AND MAPPING DOCUMENT FOR 2014

### 3.1 Annual Work Plan for 2014

Activity	Schedule	Responsible
Finalize the TORs	February	Tahmina Mahmud
Finalize Mapping Document	February	Tahmina Mahmud
Develop calendar of events for 2014	February	Tahmina Mahmud
Finalize reporting format for 2013	March	Jurabek Sattorov
Meeting with CYA: • General cooperation Support to the National Youth Forum	March	
Translate the TORs into the Russian and Tajik language <sup>2</sup>	March	
YTG Meeting with CYA participation	March	
Selection Process: Youth Ambassadors to the IYTG: Drafting concept note (with criterion selection, etc.); Announce, Select	April	Azizakhon Kataeva
Discussion of Youth Participation: what do we now and what does it mean	April	
Recommendations by young leaders	April	
Negotiations with DCC, UNCT to meet/present IYTG	April	
Youth Week – National Youth Day Topic: The role of Youth Organizations of Tajikistan	May	
Discussion of Youth Participation: what do we now and what does it mean	May	Nisso Kasymova
World Youth Day Action – support national Youth Fair	August	
PR activities for IVD	December	

<sup>2</sup> Consult with GTG about approval of their TORs, was it coordinated with state agencies or not

## 3.2 Mapping Document for 2014

Areas	Projects/Programmes or Activities	Responsible agency/co-partners	Source of funding	Time frame	Regions	Beneficiaries	Description of the programme
Health	Outreach network support to increase vulnerable young people's access to YFHS	MoH, Youth NGOs Nasli Solim, Young Generation, Reproductive health and adolescents	UNICEF, GFATM R8 grant	2010-2013.	Dushanbe, RRS(Gissar, Vakhdat) Khatlon (Dangara, KT, Kuliab, Javan) Sougd (Khudjand, Pendjikent, Ispara) GBAO (Khorog)	Vulnerable and at risk young people 10-24 age)	Outreach leaders conducting the communication campaigns among the targeted group and accompany the clients to YFHS
	YFHS certification	Youth 21 century NGO	UNICEF WHO	2013	Dushanbe, RRS (Gissar, Vakhdat) Khatlon (Dangara, KT, Kuliab, Javan) Sougd (Khudjand, Pendjikent, Ispara) GBAO (Khorog)	Vulnerable and at risk young people 10-24 age)	Young people's participation in monitoring of the quality of YFHS
	<p>Celebration of Youth Day- Dissemination of Informational Materials on HIV/AIDS among youth.</p> <p><b>a.</b> Conducting of activities concerning to UN Care. component.</p> <p><b>b.</b> Development of information materials on HIV/AIDS and UN Care.</p> <p><b>c.</b> December 1 2013, dedicated to World AIDS day.</p> <p><b>Idea:</b> produce unified informational materials, stickers, press release.</p>	<p>UN JAP project Committee of youth Affairs of RT, other partners.</p> <p>UN JAP, other UN Agencies.</p> <p>UN JAP</p> <p>UN JAP, ILO, other partners</p>	<p>UN JAP, Committee of youth Affairs of RT</p> <p>UN JAP, other UN Agencies.</p> <p>UN JAP</p> <p>UN JAP</p>	<p>May 23</p> <p>Third and fourth quarters of the year 2013</p> <p>Third and fourth quarters of the year 2013</p> <p>1 December 2013</p>	<p>Dushanbe</p> <p>All UN offices in Tajikistan</p> <p>UN JAP</p> <p>Dushanbe</p>		



Areas	Projects/Programmes or Activities	Responsible agency/co-partners	Source of funding	Time frame	Regions	Beneficiaries	Description of the programme
	<p>GIZ Regional program “Health in Central Asia/ Tajikistan”:</p> <p><u>Component 1</u>- Improving the quality of services in the area of sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR)</p> <p><u>Component 2</u>- Promoting the health of young people</p> <p><u>Component 3</u>- Improvement of the conditions for access in the context of basic social security</p>	<p>Committee of Youth, Sport and Tourism under the Government of RT, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Labour and Social protection, different public organizations and youth public organizations</p>	<p>BMZ, implemented by GIZ</p>	<p>2009- 2015</p>	<p>Dushanbe, Yavan, Kurgan- tube, Isfara, Spitamen, Muminobod</p>	<p>Youth 12- 24 years old</p>	<p><b>Objective:</b> State and non-state community-based organisations that work with young people and young women and men in the non-medical sector provide youth-friendly, human-rights-based and gender-sensitive services in the area of area of SRHR and HIV and addiction prevention.</p> <p>Primary prevention - awareness raising among youth in regards to SRHR and HIV and addiction prevention through use of interactive peer instruments (mobile theater, education exhibition Join- In- Circuit, peer-to- peer education, sport activities).</p> <p>In 2014- 2015 the program will focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- development of computer based course on SRHR, that will be adapted for education sector (teachers), youth sector and sector working with PWID (people who inject drugs) and their sexual partners;</li> <li>- capacity building of partners from education, youth and health sectors on reproductive rights based approaches and gender sensitiveness;</li> <li>- continue work on sustainable institutionalization of education exhibition Join- In- Circuit (development of the quality assurance mechanism and M&amp;E system)</li> </ul>

Areas	Projects/Programmes or Activities	Responsible agency/co-partners	Source of funding	Time frame	Regions	Beneficiaries	Description of the programme
	Adolescents Sexual and Reproductive Health	Committee of Youth, Sport and Tourism under the Government of RT, Ministry of Health, Tajikistan Education Academy, Mass media, UN agencies, international and national organizations	UNFPA	Within the CP for 2010-2015	Countrywide	Adolescent, young people (14-25), schoolchildren of 10th – 11th grades	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthening capacity of the Education Academy of Tajikistan for the design and implementation of HLSE in schools;</li> <li>• Strengthening of the YFS centres and implementation of WHO Orientation Programme on Adolescent Health (training for 20 RH Centre specialists on WHO OP);</li> <li>• Publication of the OP Manuals for Participants and Facilitators: 250 copies</li> <li>• Capacity building of Y-PEER network (through provision of office equipment, technical support);</li> <li>• Strengthening partnership with national stakeholders through support of Youth Theme Group, UN Communication group</li> </ul>
<b>Education</b>	Girls education	MoE/NGO Oshti Milli	UNICEF	2010-2013	Rasht, Pyanj Kuliab, B. Gafurov, Istarvshan, Ispara	Girls, grade 7-11	Girls are completed the high secondary school
	Computer literacy, English classes, Cyrillic classes	UNHCR's implementing partner	UNHCR and UNHCR's implementing partner	2011-2013	Dushanbe, Vahkdat, Khujad	School age children	UNHCR implementing partner is giving computer literacy classes, English classes and Cyrillic classes for supplementary education for the refugee children. The implementing partner is also going to give Russian classes soon.
	Tajikistan Young Leaders program	Counterpart International	USAID	2011-2015	Dushanbe, Zarafshon, Rasht, GBAO	Youth, grade 13-17	To support active, civically-engaged and socially conscious youth in Tajikistan and to provide them with the tools and experience to take ownership of their future and contribute to the development

Areas	Projects/Programmes or Activities	Responsible agency/co-partners	Source of funding	Time frame	Regions	Beneficiaries	Description of the programme
							of their country through creation and ongoing development of a youth civic education and program framework. The framework will include both materials (training manuals, project concepts, youth CSO directories) and methodologies (monitoring and evaluation of youth projects, youth grant making best practices, involving youth in local governance) that will draw upon good practices from Tajikistan and other countries
<b>Human Rights</b> <b>Child protection</b>							
<b>Food Security</b>							
<b>Democracy and Good Governance</b>	Budgeting for youth	Local NGOs	UNICEF	2013	Dushanbe, Rasht, Isfara, Kulob	Young people (15-30 age), Youth organizations	Capacity development for youth on Tajikistan budgeting system and local budgets. Awareness raising, facilitating dialogue between youth and decision makers on the local budget.
	District level situation analysis on child rights	Local NGOs with strong focus on youth	UNICEF	2013	Rasht, Isfara, Kulob	Youth organizations, local government, civil society institutions	Mobilizing youth to conduct a high quality, rights-based, participatory situation analysis on child rights in the three districts of Isfara, Kulob and Rasht, to build consensus on its findings and to present the results for policy discussions on local development goals, priorities and

Areas	Projects/Programmes or Activities	Responsible agency/co-partners	Source of funding	Time frame	Regions	Beneficiaries	Description of the programme
							budgets.
	Post Conflict rehabilitation and stabilization in Khorog	AKF/MSDSP	EC	2013-2014	Khorog town	Local Government, CSOs, youth and population of Khorog town	The project objectives are to support the establishment of inclusive forums between CSOs and government, ensuring active participation of youth in social life and decision making and contributing to stronger resilience of the population against negative social influences. One of the project expected result is Enhanced participation and engagement of youth in constructive activities to improve responsibility, social skills, integration and self-control
	Integrated Health and Habitat Improvement in Rasht valley	AKF/MSDSP/AKHS/F OCUS	SDC	2013-2017	Fayzabad, Roghun, Nurabad, Rasht, Tajikabad, Jirgatol and Tavildara	Population in Rasht valley, including youth, youth organisations	The overall goal of the project is to contribute to the improvement of quality of life of the population in Rasht valley. The focus of the project is participatory governance, health, water and sanitation and integrated watershed management. One of the main outcome of the project is to increase capacity of the communities to plan and implement development and social projects together with local authorities with the active participation of women and young people in decision making.
<b>Environment</b>							

Areas	Projects/Programmes or Activities	Responsible agency/co-partners	Source of funding	Time frame	Regions	Beneficiaries	Description of the programme
<b>Advocacy + Cross Cutting</b>	Support organizing events for Inter'l Youth Day, Inter'l Volunteer Day	UNV	UNV	2013	RoT but mainly the areas where UN Volunteers are serving	Young people + those who want to do volunteering + Other UN agencies via UN Volunteers	Coordinating with other UN agencies and civil organizations to organize events
	Organize and mobilize youth for volunteering activities through projects of UN agencies where UN Volunteers serve for.	Each UN agency but not compulsory (capacity of UN agencies for volunteering)	Depends on UN agencies	2013	RoT but mainly the areas where UN Volunteers are serving	Young people + those who want to do volunteering + Other UN agencies via UN Volunteers	UN Volunteers in each UN agency are supposed to take volunteering initiatives through Host UN agency's program/projects
	Advocacy on volunteerism	UNV	UNV	2013	RoT but mainly the areas where UN Volunteers are serving	Young people + those who want to do volunteering + Other UN agencies via UN Volunteers	Coordinate with State agencies, UN agencies and civil organizations to organize coordination unit/meeting for promoting/upgrading volunteerism
	GIZ Regional program "Health in Central Asia/Tajikistan": <u>Component 1</u> - Improving	Local youth public organization "Young Generation of Tajikistan"	BMZ, implemented by GIZ	2012- 2013	Country wide	Youth	Finalization of the "Positioning document" that underlines the necessity of youth involvement in processing of programs concerning health issues (need

Areas	Projects/Programmes or Activities	Responsible agency/co-partners	Source of funding	Time frame	Regions	Beneficiaries	Description of the programme
	<p>the quality of services in the area of sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR)</p> <p><u>Component 2-</u> Promoting the health of young people</p> <p><u>Component3-</u> Improvement of the conditions for access in the context of basic social security</p>						<p>assessment and research, program design, planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation).</p> <p>Under the project the following documents will be developed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Short summary of the legal and regulatory framework confirming merging the principle of “youth participation’ in all phases of the program/projects concerning health issues;</li> <li>- Guidelines on advocacy skills:</li> <li>- Report on results of the survey among decision makers on their understanding and willingness to promote and use the principle of “youth participation”;</li> <li>- Report on results of the survey among youth on their understanding and willingness to promote the principle of “youth participation”;</li> <li>- Final version of the positioning document.</li> </ul>
	World Refugee Day	UNHCR, UNHCR’s implementing partner	UNHCR	2013	Dushanbe, Kujad	Refugee children	Every year on June 20 <sup>th</sup> , we commemorate World Refugee Day to raise public awareness of refugee issues and their rights. This year, we are organizing a concert and some activities for around 400 of refugee children.

Areas	Projects/Programmes or Activities	Responsible agency/co-partners	Source of funding	Time frame	Regions	Beneficiaries	Description of the programme
<b>Youth (General)</b>	DAFI scholarship program funded by the German Embassy in Tajikistan	UNHCR	German Embassy, UNHCR, UNHCR's implementing partner	2008-2013	Dushanbe, Vahdat, Khujand	Refugee youth who seek to get higher education	<p>Currently, 17 refugee youth are studying at universities in Tajikistan on scholarship funded by the German Embassy in Tajikistan. The DAFI students are not only studying at universities but they are engaged in community services as it is a mandatory requirement for them to enrol the program.</p> <p>So far, together with Y-peer, the DAFI students visited local schools in Dushanbe, Rudaki and Vahkdat as a part of youth week activity to talk about problems and help find solutions for them.</p> <p>For this summer, from June 22 to September 22, some of the DAFI students will participate in a VSO initiated international volunteer program where volunteers from UK, Afghanistan and Tajikistan will also participate in. By joining the program, the DAFI students will develop their communication, language, problem solving skills and will also have a chance to learn new culture and chance to promote local integration.</p>

## ANNEXES

### Annex I. Letter-appreciation of the Executive Board to the TYTG



#### Представительство Постоянного Координатора ООН в Таджикистане

Ref: UNDP/RC/NDJ/013/026

18 июля 2013 г.

Уважаемые члены межведомственной молодежной тематической группы!

От лица Программы Развития ООН (ПРООН) и Фонда ООН в области народонаселения (ЮНФПА) в Таджикистане я бы хотел выразить наше искреннее уважение и признательность всем вам за ценные и полезные дискуссии с членами межведомственной молодежной тематической группы и партнерами во время обеда 27 июня 2013 г.

Мы получили огромное удовольствие от встречи с молодыми и энергичными профессионалами, решившими объединить свои усилия в координировании деятельности своих агентств в сфере молодежи. Мы думаем, что это чрезвычайно важная инициатива для такого молодого населения как таджики, и мы с удовольствием узнали, что Таджикистан является одной из первых стран, в которой учреждена такая группа для лучшего планирования, координирования и реализации программ, направленных на улучшение благосостояния и развития молодежи.

Мы особенно ценим вашу деятельность, связанную с усилением участия молодежи в формировании политики и реализации и оценке молодежных проектов. Члены Исполнительного Совета Программы Развития ООН (ПРООН)/Фонда ООН в области народонаселения (ЮНФПА)/Управления ООН по обслуживанию проектов (ЮНОПС) были впечатлены эффективным сотрудничеством и конструктивным подходом ООН и международных организаций к ценному использованию потенциала каждого молодого человека в Таджикистане.

От лица Программы Развития ООН (ПРООН) и Фонда ООН в области народонаселения (ЮНФПА) в Таджикистане мы бы хотели воспользоваться случаем, чтобы возобновить вам заверения в своем весьма глубоком уважении.

С уважением,

г-н Александр Зуев,  
Постоянный Координатор ООН и  
Постоянный Представитель ПРООН

Межведомственная молодежная тематическая группа



5 July 2013

Dear Inter-agency Youth Theme Group Members,

On behalf of the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)/United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)/United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) I would like to express our sincere gratitude and appreciation to all of you for the valuable and rewarding discussion we had with the members of Interagency Youth Theme Group and its partners during the luncheon on 27 June 2013.

It was a great pleasure to meet the young and enthusiastic professionals who decided to join their efforts to coordinate activities of their respective agencies in the sphere of youth. We believe it is a crucial initiative for the young nations like Tajiks and we are pleased to know that Tajikistan is among the first countries that have established such group to better design, coordinate and implement programmes aimed at promoting the well-being and development of youth.

We especially appreciate your efforts related to enhancing youth participation in policy formulation and implementation and evaluation of youth-related projects. Members of the Executive Board of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS were impressed by effective collaboration and constructive approach of UN and international agencies in ensuring the valuable use of every young person's potential in Tajikistan.

On behalf of the Executive Board of United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)/United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)/United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) we avail ourselves of this opportunity to express you the assurances of our highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. Alexander Zuev,  
UN Resident Coordinator &  
UNDP Resident Representative

Inter-agency Youth Theme Group Members