



2015 National Development Council



Food Security and Nutrition

Mr. Nicolas Oberlin, World Food Programme



2015 National Development Council



Food Security and Nutrition are centered on people:

Availability

Access

Utilization

Stability



Nutrition

Outcomes



Achievements



- **Nutrition:** In 2014 Tajikistan initiated its participation in the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) movement and participated in the 2nd International Conference on Nutrition (ICN2);
- **Agrarian Reform:** 2015 objectives of irrigated areas serviced by WUAs and nr. of land user right certificates issued have already been reached or exceeded;
- **Concept Note** on Food Security and Nutrition was prepared by the DCC to contribute to the National Development Strategy (2016-2030);
- **School Feeding:** Inter-ministerial Working Group was formed in 2014 and strategy for National School Feeding Programme was submitted to the Government.



Challenges

- Speed of implementation of **Agrarian Reform**, including a functioning **land use market**, entrenching **Freedom to Farm**;
- Institutional/system reforms, especially **re-structuring of Ministry of Agriculture**;
- Formalize separate functions for **Water Sector** between policy/planning (basin, national, international levels) and operations/maintenance (for irrigation), and official approval by the Government of the **Water Sector Strategy**;
- Lack of common understanding on **relationship and inter-sectorial nature** of food insecurity and malnutrition (agriculture, industry, health, water and sanitation, social protection, education) ;
- Lack of national capacity to plan, cost and budget for **nutrition interventions**, which leaves this critical sector mostly to development partners and external support;
- Need to **act now for the social and economic future** of Tajikistan (e.g. chronic malnutrition, competitiveness of agriculture, income opportunities, impact of food insecurity on economic performance), and to be able to **face crises**;



Priorities



- Pursue multi-sectorial efforts to **increase food security and combat malnutrition** (almost 40% of rural population is food insecure, 1 child in 4 is chronically malnourished); This includes nutrition and food security **surveillance**;
- Revive and expand role of the **Food Security Council** to provide leadership on nutrition issues, as well as on food security; Reflect multi-sectorial objectives for food security and nutrition in the new **National Development Strategy**;
- Pass decree/legislation to extend the rights of **land alienation** and to secure the **status of WUAs**; Fully implement “**freedom to farm**” to boost food production diversification for positive impact on nutrition and food security;
- Develop **social protection and safety nets** (e.g. National School Feeding Programme) to augment resilience of population against food insecurity and malnutrition.



2015 National Development Council



Energy and Transport

Patricia Veevers-Carter, World Bank



Energy



Contribution to LSIS

- Donors contributed to achieve LSIS objectives in the energy sector – to secure energy independence, mainly through infrastructure investment; some progress on BT financial viability and restructuring
- DCC initiative “Ensuring TJK energy sustainability” resulted in donor commitments of USD 668.7 mln (WB, ADB, KfW, EBRD, UNDP, EIB, USAID)
- Good collaboration with MoEWR

Key Sector’s Priorities

- Improve corporate governance and financial viability to attract investments and realize large unexploited potential in hydro and gas.
- Key actions include continue BT restructuring, improve BT financial viability, improve transparency, accountability and public participation
- Invest in power/heat generation to meet winter energy demand and improve energy efficiency
- Explore and implement power trade opportunities including third party access to Tajikistan’s electricity grid



Transport



Contribution to LSIS

- Donors contributed significantly to achieve LSIS objectives – to improve transport connectivity, develop and strengthen transport infrastructure; ensure free competition; and develop international corridors
- DCC initiative “Better Connectivity” resulted in donor commitments of USD 382 mln (ADB, JICA, AKDN, UNDP, EBRD, WB)
- Strong commitment and effective cooperation with the MoT

Key Sector’s Priorities

- Despite good progress, still challenges, namely inadequate transport network, regulatory and border crossing barriers; poor road safety.
- Key actions include rehabilitation and upgrading on roads; strengthen legal and regulatory framework to maximize private sector involvement; and road safety
- Enhance cross-border transport operations; and expand airline connectivity



2015 National Development Council



Human Development

Lucia Elmi, UNICEF



2015 National Development Council



Tajikistan's greatest asset is its people.

However:

- Due to inadequate provision of social service, the quality of human capital is declining;
- The current social protection system does not provide adequate security against economic and other shocks and not always targeting the poorest.



Achievements



➤ **Education:**

- The **enrolment rate** of children in preschool stage has increased from 7% of 2007 to 12% of 2014.
- **Inclusive Education** Concept has been adopted in order to implement inclusive education and practical works have been completed in this direction;
- **Per-capita financing** (PCF) has been implemented in General Secondary Education and it's implementation is expected in other stages of education.

Health:

- In 2014 **Basic Benefits Package** was scaled up in 6 new rayon, present coverage is 14.
- Piloting of **per capita financing** at primary health care at the rayon level in Soghd Oblast (2013)
- **Draft Strategic** plan for health financing reforms 'till 2018



Achievements



➤ **Social protection:**

- **Social protection strategy'** drafting process kick started and full strategy is anticipated by mid-2015,
- Draft Law on **Targeted Social Assistance - TSA** while the TSA programme is being rolled out in 15 additional districts this year (total 25).
- Reconstruction and operation of new **Chorbog training center**
- Single window pilot project implemented in Sino district and Yavan. Regular operation of SW pilot expected during 2015.
- MoHSP actively cooperated with donors and further expanded the **network of social services** outsourced to NGOs, 2014 - four contracts have been signed with international NGOs and through these projects several day-care centres and outreach services have been established.



Next steps/Priorities



Education:

- Increase **access to early learning** through preschool settings and early learning centres from 11% (2013) to 25% (2020);
- Revise the **Pre School curriculum** for State Kindergartens; increase the teaching and learning materials; and ensure teacher training opportunities;
- Develop in-service training for teachers on inclusive education; expand teaching and learning material base to promote inclusive education; and revise the normative framework to support Inclusive Education.
- Implement **per-capita financing** at the preschool level to increase transparency, accountability, and effectiveness in budgeting;
- Ensure access to **alternative early childhood** development opportunities



Next steps/Priorities



Health:

- Adoption and implementation of **Strategic plan** on health financing, as per agreed timeline,
- **Per capita at PHC level: Increase the national budget for PHC** during Budget formation for 2016.
- Financial commitment for further scale-up of BBP in 2016;
- **New purchasing mechanism at hospital level (e.g. case based payment)** for consideration



Next steps/Priorities



Social protection:

- Adoption of the **SP strategy** and establishment of an inter-Governmental coordination body for social protection.
- Financial commitment on the Government side for national roll out of **TSA and CBR programmes**.
- Pensions: Adoption of amendments to **pension** law currently in Parliament and development and testing of an integrated, automated system of individual Notionally Defined Contribution accounts in at least 2 pilot rayons in view of planned national rollout by January 2017.



2015 National Development Council



Governance: *Public Administration Reform* *Rule of Law and Access to Justice*

Aliona Niculita, UNDP



Achievements

Public Administration Reform:



- 1) Introducing a GFSM 2001 budget economic classification and development a new Unified Chart of Accounts for the general government sector;
- 2) Treasury modernization, IT center establishment and introduction of automated budget preparation module;
- 3) Publishing annually a statement of fiscal risks emanating from large State-Owned Enterprises (SOEs), adoption of the dividend payment policy for them, and introducing Tajik Public Sector Financial Reporting Standards (10 out of 32);
- 4) Concept on Local Development formulated and finalized jointly with Executive Office of the President of RT and relevant state institutions. Draft Decree on budget formation and implementation by pilot jamoats approved by relevant ministries is submitted to the Government of Tajikistan;
- 5) Chamber of Accounts started auditing budget organizations, publishing its reports and giving recommendations to Government and Parliament.

Rule of Law and Access to Justice

- 1) Judicial – Legal Reform programme is adopted by Presidential decree on January 5th, 2015;
- 2) Concept paper on State Guaranteed legal aid is being finalized and expected to be adopted by March 1 of 2015;
- 3) Law on Advocatura passed in the lower chamber of the Parliament in December 2014;
- 4) , 6,684 vulnerable and marginalized people, including 4,473 or 66.9% women received legal aid through the network of around 30 Legal Aid Centers;
- 5) 50% of ZAGS and Notary staff trained.



Challenges and Priorities



Public Administration Reform:

- 1) Medium-Term Expenditure Framework process: large number of Main Administrators of Budget Allocations hampers the strategic planning process, aggregate expenditure control, and efficiency and effectiveness of expenditure;

Priority: Reduce number of MABAs and enhance their role

- 2) SOEs' management: quasi-fiscal activities; fiscal risks they create; non-payment of dividends;

Priority: Improving management, transparency and accountability of SOEs - large SOEs to prepare financial statements in accordance with IFRS and be subject to audits by certified auditors;

- 3) Chamber of Accounts needs to conduct external audit in accordance with international standards;

Priority: Improve external audit capacity and follow international standards in audits.

Rule of Law and Access to Justice

- 1) Main documents are adopted therefore the priority is their implementation:

- Judicial – Legal Reform programme to be implemented in a manner that strengthens independence, transparency and accountability of justice sector;

- Concept on State Guaranteed Legal Aid to be approved to create an effective, transparent and sustainable legal aid system; law on advokatura to be endorsed by the Higher Chamber of the Parliament and implemented in a manner that ensures independence and effectiveness;

- 2) Capacity of institutions to be strengthened; role and capacity of Ombudsman office to be further enhanced.



2015 National Development Council



Economic and Private Sector Development

*Improving Conditions for Private Investment in
Tajikistan; Inclusive Rural Growth through Value
Chain Support; Integrating into the Global
Economy – Regional Trade Facilitation*

Kristin Laabs, KfW Country Director



Achievements



Improving Conditions for Private Investment

- 1) Business environment reforms including business registration, inspections and trade as well as reducing costs to do business
- 2) Actions Plans on Doing Business Reform and Tourism Sector Development have been adopted.
- 3) Events focusing on improving the investment climate took place.

Inclusive Rural Growth through Value Chain Support

- 1) Improved yield patterns on 35,000 ha and additional income generated
- 2) Outreach to 128,000 households (896,000 people)

Integrating into the Global Economy/Regional Trade Facilitation

- 1) WTO accession enabled the GoT to advance policy negotiations with acceding countries and to protect interests of the private sector.
- 2) GoT approved in 2014 the Post WTO Accession Action Plan.
- 3) WTO awareness raising campaign for entrepreneurs and civil servants enhanced private public dialogue.



Challenges



Improving Conditions for Private Investment

- 1) Improving the quality of implementation of regulatory reforms
- 2) Encouraging formalization and growth of businesses
- 3) Smaller domestic and foreign investors without strong political backing are struggling.
- 4) Intergovernmental coordination is crucial for the success of reforms.

Inclusive Rural Growth through Value Chain Support

- 1) Implementation of resolution no. 111 “Freedom to Farm Act”
- 2) Implementation of resolution no. 93 “Exemption of agricultural inputs at customs from VAT and fees”

Integrating into the Global Economy/Regional Trade Facilitation

- 1) Enhance understanding of WTO commitments and enforcement mechanisms
- 2) Improve quality and production of export oriented goods



Priorities



Improving Conditions for Private Investment

- 1) Improving enforcement of legislation (economic courts, appeals processes, mechanism for dispute resolution)
- 2) Improving competitiveness in key sectors (agriculture, mining, tourism)
- 3) Strengthening of financial markets infrastructure
- 4) Greater involvement of private sector in design, advocacy and supervision of reforms

Inclusive Rural Growth through Value Chain Support

- 1) Prioritize interventions to create bigger impact for greater number
- 2) Enhance market links along the value chains
- 3) Invest in rehabilitation of land and irrigation

Integrating into the Global Economy/Regional Trade Facilitation

- 1) Efficient implementation of the Post WTO Accession Action Plan