

ANNUAL PROJECT REPORT 2012

**United Nations Development Programme
Tajikistan**

Support to Development Coordination Council Secretariat

01-01-2012 – 31-12-2012

<p>Project ID: 00076144 Duration: 01/01/2012 – 31/12/2012 Component (CPAP): The Government successfully adopts more pro-poor policies, laws and expenditures and receives greater support for this from the international community. Total Budget 2012: \$ 46,283 Total Expense 2012: \$ 44,324 Implementing Partners/Responsible parties: World Bank, GIZ, UNDP</p>
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I. Context

During the last decade the GoT has undertaken certain steps to organize and improve foreign aid coordination processes. At the initial stage, GoT with the assistance from the World Bank (1995-1996), and later UNDP (1997-1998) has twice created Foreign Aid Coordination Units but lacking formal institutional structure. In 2001, according to President's Decree Aid Coordination Unit within the Executive Office of the President of Tajikistan (ACU) was established. To render assistance for strengthening institutional capacity and lending portfolio management, the ADB has funded two projects (2002-2004 and 2005-2007, respectively) to support this structure under the GoT's request. With those projects' framework, ADB conducted training for ACU staff, created foreign aid database, improved mechanisms and procedures for managing the Government lending portfolio, designed reporting system and procedures, ensured annual preparation and publication of the guides "Development Partners Portfolio" and "Foreign Aid Reports", creating and operating specialized foreign aid coordination website etc.

Development partners have pledged to work with Tajikistan to implement the PRS, and both have committed to improving aid effectiveness, in accordance with the Paris Declaration and the Accra Agenda for Action. With this in mind the following arrangements are in place:

- a) The Government has formally mandated the State Investment Committee to coordinate all external assistance.
- b) Donors have established a Donor Coordination Council (DCC) as a forum for regular donor coordination. The chair of the DCC is spokesperson for development partners at formal Government/partner meetings and is the official point of contact on general coordination matters.
- c) Beneath the DCC there is a number of sectoral sub-groups that report to the DCC on donors sectoral activities and on developments within their purview (e.g. the Agriculture sub-group; the Health sector sub-group). These sector groups in turn support a range of technical working groups that address technical issues and which involve both Government and donor technical personnel. It is envisaged to involve international expertise to study thoroughly the DCC existing structure with its working groups and sub-groups to ensure there is a clear strategic role for DCC as well as all other sectoral groups.
- d) Government and donors have jointly developed a Joint Country Partnership Strategy (JCPS) which defines how donors and government will work together to implement Paris Declaration and Accra Agenda for Action commitments. An action plan for achieving these commitments is set out in the JCPS memorandum that government and the JCPS partners signed on 2 November 2009. JCPS memorandum sets targets for Government and partners on the way of doing business rather than results that are set to achieve.

II. Results summary and implementation review

A. Project Results and Impact Summary

In 2012, the project contributed to the accomplishment of the following major results - organizing Regional Economic Cooperation for Afghanistan-4 (RECCA-2), Development Forum, consultation and elaboration of Tajikistan Living Standards Improvement Strategy for 2012-2015.

During RECCA-4 Conference, DCC arranged a thematic dialogue with all stakeholders who work in the field of cross-border cooperation and border management. Eventually, the outcomes of the dialogue were presented at the high-level Development Forum that took place in mid-December.

DCC facilitated and organized coordination support to the Government of Tajikistan for preparation and organization of Development Forum. The overall objective of the Forum was presentation and review of the progress of activities set under Development Forum Action Plan back to 2012 as well as agreement the new mid-term development strategy for the country for the period of 2013-2015.

Several pre-Forum thematic sessions were organized by DCC project, where high-ranking officials from the Executive Office of the President, Ministries of Economic Development and Trade, State Committee in Investments and State Property Management and other relevant ministries attended. Comments that yielded from meetings and sessions have been presented and incorporated into the policy documents and discussed during conferences.

Project Results Summary		
Output	Target	Accomplished
Activity 1. Support effective coordination between GoT and Donors to ensure implementation of PRS3 and JCPS and increase national ownership and capacity to lead sector reform and donor coordination.	1.1. Pending agreement between DCC and GoT, a joint review of 2010 Development Forum Action Plan (DFAP) is organized in April or May.	1.1. Follow-up to the December 2010 Development Forum Action Plan (DFAP), in the form of expanded implementation plans in 11 sectors, was continued; Five DCC cluster updates were arranged by DCCS to provide the updates as per the DFAP; core group meetings were called as needed.
	1.2. On the basis of GoT progress against 2010 DFAP, Development Forum and Investors' Forum are organized in November.	1.2. An important milestone in the Development Forum process, joint DCC-GoT review of the DFAP was held in June. DCCS coordinated and developed summaries of the five cluster sessions on June 29, which brought together DCC and GoT counterparts (at Deputy Minister and Head of the Department level). The review was an opportunity for both the GoT and DCC to report on achievements towards PRS-3, specific Development Forum objectives.
	1.3. 2010 DFAP progress is monitored, and work of 5 sector groups and 16 working groups is supported to the extent feasible.	1.3. An important milestone in the Development Forum process, joint DCC-GoT review of the DFAP was held in June. DCCS coordinated and developed summaries of the five cluster sessions on June 29, which brought together DCC and GoT counterparts (at Deputy Minister and Head of the Department level). The review was an opportunity for both the GoT and DCC to report on achievements towards PRS-3, specific

		Development Forum objectives.
	1.4. DCC efforts to meet Joint Country Partnership Strategy (JCPS) commitments are supported.	1.4. Based on the review of the DCC structure, two working groups were removed from the DCC organizational chart: ad-hoc WG on JCPS and Macroeconomic development. WG on Regional cooperation and integration into the WG was put under the Private and Financial Cluster development. Hence the number of DCC WGs was brought to 13 with one cross-sectoral thematic WG on Food Security. In addition "Chair/Deputy Chair" model was replicated from the top to cluster and WG level.
	1.5. Substantive regular general DCC meetings are organized, and core group meetings are called as needed.	1.5. Regular and ad-hoc based DCC meetings were organized during 2012.
	1.6. The DCC Chair (and in his absence, the Deputy Chair) is advised and assisted in his related responsibilities.	1.6. Overall, the Chair and Deputy Chair of the DCC were advised and supported in their related responsibilities, and the work of the entire DCC was supported by the DCC Secretariat (DCCS). Three monthly meetings were organized during the quarter; DCCS prepared agendas, the Chair's annotated agendas and supporting documents.

B. Implementation Strategy Review

Because DCC is an inter-agency entity, all donor agencies of Tajikistan are engaged in its activities. Until March 2012, ADB Country Director was the Head of DCC and since then onwards it is led by WB Country Director and the deputy is GIZ Country Director. DCC has been closely worked with the National Development Council of Tajikistan as well as with the State Committee of Investment and State Property Management. In particular, DCC had long discussion with SCISPM on shared principles, which are about donor coordination, aid effectiveness, and aid management.

III. Detailed project activities review

SCISPM capacity building

Quarter 1 (January, February, March)

- Overall, the Chair and Deputy Chair of the DCC were advised and supported in their related responsibilities, and the work of the entire DCC was supported by the DCC Secretariat (DCCS). Three monthly meetings were organized during the quarter; DCCS prepared agendas, the Chair's annotated agendas and supporting documents.
- In preparation to RECCA-4 Conference, a special thematic session on cross-border cooperation was arranged. DCCS prepared a consolidated matrix and thematic presentation of all cross-border projects with Afghanistan, implemented by the Development Partners. The outcomes of the session were further used at a joint DCC-PG meeting on Afghanistan with the presence of the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Hamrokhon Zarifi.
- To launch the process of PRS-4 development Forum, DCCS facilitated a presentation of the Minister of Economic Development and Trade (MEDT) Mr. Rahimzoda at DCC

general meeting in February. The following key recommendations to MEDT were provided:

- a. In developing the new strategy it is necessary to incorporate a solid quantitative data on poverty and middle class;
 - b. In calculating economic growth, it is necessary to identify how much growth is coming from the development programmes introduced by the GoT and how much from the remittances.
 - c. It is also necessary to incorporate the external shock scenario into the strategy, considering the high dependency of the country on external economy.
 - d. Stronger link to the State Budget should be established.
 - e. In terms of monitoring, it is necessary to focus not just on outputs, as it is usually done, but on outcomes.
- Follow-up to the December 2010 Development Forum Action Plan (DFAP), in the form of expanded implementation plans in 11 sectors, was continued; Five DCC cluster updates were arranged by DCCS to provide the updates as per the DFAP; core group meetings were called as needed.
- To support the Executive Office of the President (EoP) in their Human Resource development DCCS supported the EOP in developing the Concept Note of EoP HR needs and facilitated at the DCC meeting in January and follow-up meetings in February-March with Development Partners.

Quarter 2 (April, May, June)

- Due to the new posting of the DCC Chair, Mr. Joji Tokeshi, ADB, DCCS facilitated the election process for the positions of the new DCC Chair and Deputy Chair. New Chair, Ms. Marsha Olive, WB, and Deputy Chair, GiZ started their tenure on April 12 after the announcement at the general DCC meeting. DCCS supported a smooth transition process and continued its day-to-day provision of substantive support and advice on coordination issues to the Chair and Deputy Chair, as well as backstopping to clusters and working groups. Subsequent general meetings were also held in May and June.
- An important milestone in the Development Forum process, joint DCC-GoT review of the DFAP was held in June. DCCS coordinated and developed summaries of the five cluster sessions on June 29, which brought together DCC and GoT counterparts (at Deputy Minister and Head of the Department level). The review was an opportunity for both the GoT and DCC to report on achievements towards PRS-3, specific Development Forum objectives.
- In June, DCCS supported the DCC integrity seminars held in collaboration with the GoT, Principals Group and civil society. Both seminars were opened and closed by senior GoT officials (Mr. Rahimov, First Deputy Minister of Education, and Mr. Hamraliev, Senior Advisor to the President on Economic Policy); two key goals of the seminars are considered met: a) better understanding of the “C” word, and b) active participation from the GoT and DCC sides; it was agreed that in 2013 this theme will be further explored in 2013 with potential cross-sector approach.
- Based on the review of the DCC structure, two working groups were removed from the DCC organizational chart: ad-hoc WG on JCPS and Macroeconomic development. WG on Regional cooperation and integration into the WG was put under the Private and Financial Cluster development. Hence the number of DCC WGs was brought to 13 with one cross-sectoral thematic WG on Food Security. In addition “Chair/Deputy Chair” model was replicated from the top to cluster and WG level.

Quarter 3 (July, August, September)

- DCC-NDC Secretariat meeting was held on July 11. The purpose of the meeting was to outline the general directions on the next mid-term development strategy for Tajikistan (2013-2015) and discuss the agenda and mode of 2012 Development Forum to be held in December 2012. It was organized by the Government, with the support of development partner members of the Development Coordination Council (DCC). It was chaired by State Advisor on Economic Policy to the President of Tajikistan, Mr. Farrukh Hamralev and attended by about 60 participants, including Government officials and representatives of 22 development partner organizations. Ms. Marsha McGraw Olive, World Bank Country Manager and Mr. Umed Davlatzod, MEDT Deputy Minister co-moderating the discussions from the DCC and GoT sides respectively.
- General DCC meetings were held in July and September to discuss continuing coordination and partnership issues internally and with the GoT, with a particular focus on DCC involvement into the preparation process for the new mid-term development strategy (2013-2015) and 2012 Development Forum in December. As part of the outreach, key GoT consultants were invited to the meeting in September to deliver a presentation on the progress the strategy development. At the same meeting, IMF have provided a Country macroeconomic update to ensure that key messages are also included in the next strategy. Initial feedback by the development partners was provided. More focused DCC core group meetings and meetings with GoT were organized as needed.
- DCC have started focused internal planning for the 2012 Development Forum, agreeing on the process and key products developed by the DCC. It was agreed that DCC will produce a concise presentation-report to the Development Forum, outlining DCC contribution to PRS 3 document and suggesting key priority areas for the GoT in 2013-2015.
- DCCS facilitated joint meetings with participation of international consultant (Saumya Mithra) with the new mid-term strategy development team and DCC partners throughout the month of August.

Quarter 4 (October, November, December)

- DCCS supported the arrangement of the Special thematic DCC session on Migration and Refugees, with participation of the Principals Group members. Presentations were delivered by UNHCR and the WB. It was agreed by the members that the outcomes of this meeting will form a basis for a new DCC initiative to be implemented in 2013-2014;
- Three monthly general meetings were held throughout the quarter. This period also saw heightened activity within the core group, as members met to plan for DCC participation in the 2-part meeting with the NDC in December. DCC/DCCS meetings with GoT officials were set up as needed;
- Special one-day DCC retreat was arranged in Yos Resort for the DCC members to provide detailed feedback to the draft Tajikistan Living Standards Improvement Strategy (LSIS). Detailed report was submitted to MEDT. Following the meeting, MEDT reported to the DCC members on comments included during the November general DCC meeting.
- On 6 December, a technical meeting was organized by the MEDT as NDC Secretariat. In preparation, clusters and working groups met to discuss their respective 2010 Development Forum Action Plan and implementation plan objectives. DCCS drafted separate agendas/discussion points for each of the five cluster discussion sessions. Cluster discussion sessions were held throughout the day, in which about 160 DCC (heads of agencies and technical staff) and GoT (at the level of deputy ministers and below) representatives participated, to assess the government's progress in 9 sectors outlined in the 2010 Development Forum Action Plan and subsequent implementation plans.
- At the request of the Chair, DCCS international consultant, supported the development of DCC presentation for the Development Forum and worked closely with DCCS local consultant on this assignment.
- On 11 December, the NDC held a joint meeting with the DCC, chaired by the President Emomali Rahmon and 2012 Development Forum chaired by Prime Minister Akil Akilov. The objective of the meeting was to review Tajikistan's overall development progress and on PRS-4 and present the new Tajikistan Living Standards Improvement Strategy.

IV. Implementation challenges

Implementation Challenges & Actions Taken to Tackle Them

During the reporting period the project did not face major challenges and implementation of planned activities have been accomplished as per annual work plan.

V. Lessons learnt and next steps

LESSONS LEANT

Secretariat of DCC was closely working with the government ministries and stakeholders in the process of consultation and elaboration of Tajikistan Living Standards Improvement Strategy for the period of 2013-2015. One of the lessons for 2012 was defining flagship

programmes together with the State Committee on Investments and State Property Management. After series consultation with the Committee two flagship programmes have been identified: rule of law and regional development. To further work in these areas, DCC will continues its support to the government during next year.

VI. Financial status and utilization

Table 1: Contribution overview 01/01/2009 – 31/12/2012
Financial Status of DCC 00071644 (Phase I) and DCC 00082350 (Phase II)

Donor name	Contributions (in USD) (2010-2012)		Expenditures (2010-2012)	Contribution balance as of 1 Jan 2013
	committed	received		
SDC	105,469	105,469	105,298	200,171
	200,000	200,000		
DFID	155,279	155,279	153,289	1,990
SIDA	64,285	64,285	64,207	78
TOTAL:	525,033	525,033	322,794	202,239

Annexes

Annex 1: Multi-Annual Work Plan 2012 (or RRF/Log frame)

DEVELOPMENT COORDINATION COUNCIL SECRETARIAT PROJECT AWP -2012

Support to Effective Nationally Aid Coordination and Investment Promotion Project									
EXPECTED OUTPUTS <i>And baseline, associated indicators and annual targets</i>	PLANNED ACTIVITIES <i>List activity results and associated actions</i>	TIMEFRAME				Responsible party			
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		Funding Source	Budget description	Amount in USD
Output : Support effective coordination between GoT and donors to ensure implementation of PRS3 and JCPS and increase national ownership and capacity to lead sector reform and donor coordination Baseline: Lack of efficient donor and national coordination Indicators: 5.1 Number of ToR and work plans for the DCC and sector groups and JCPS developed 5.2 Institutional arrangements for medium-term support and coordination ensured 5.3 Number of minutes on DCC meetings and events prepared 5.4 Number of joint GoT and DCC working groups established 5.5 Number of DCC meetings and events conducted Targets for 2012: 1. Pending agreement between DCC and GoT, a joint review of 2010 Development Forum Action Plan (DFAP) is organized in April or May 2. On the basis of GoT progress against 2010 DFAP, Development Forum and Investors' Forum are organized in November	Activity. Set up a Secretariat to support DCC chair and members in their work Actions: - Select secretariat team following competitive recruitment process; - Set up a secretariat structure and establish regular meetings between the DCC members; - Develop practical mechanisms to coordinate DCC and members activities with the JCPS– where development partners and GoT formally meet. These should include both formal meetings and reporting formats; - Support sector groups to establish clearly defined goals and time-bound deliverables focused upon delivering PRS priorities and the JCPS Action Plan. Help establish systems for the DCC and the JCPS to monitor and review progress against these deliverables; - Assist the DCC and GoT in the creation of joint donor-government					DFID/SD C/SIDA	71300-Local Consultants	4,000	
		X						71400-Constructual Services-Individual	8,000
		X	X	X	X			72100-Constructual services-Companies	6,000
		X	X	X	X			72100-Conferences	10,000
								72200 – Equipment & furniture	2,000
		X	X	X	X			72400-Communication & audiovisual equipment	6,000
								72500 – Supplies	5,000
		X	X	X	X			74500 – Miscellaneous expenses	2,255.81

Support to Effective Nationally Aid Coordination and Investment Promotion Project									
EXPECTED OUTPUTS <i>And baseline, associated indicators and annual targets</i>	PLANNED ACTIVITIES <i>List activity results and associated actions</i>	TIMEFRAME				Responsible party			
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		Funding Source	Budget description	Amount in USD
3. 2010 DFAP progress is monitored, and work of 5 sector groups and 16 working groups is supported to the extent feasible 4. DCC efforts to meet Joint Country Partnership Strategy (JCPS) commitments are supported 5. Substantive regular general DCC meetings are organized, and core group meetings are called as needed 6. The DCC Chair (and in his absence, the Deputy Chair) is advised and assisted in his related responsibilities	working groups and defining the ToR for each; and - Monitor sector groups support to technical working groups, helping ensure work plans and resource needs are coordinated and effectively addressed.	X	X	X	X			75100-GMS 7 %	3,027.91
Total Activity 1:									46,283.72