

Russian Federation – UNDP Trust Fund for Development Supports Emergency Preparedness and Response Capacities in Tajikistan

Dushanbe, Tajikistan, 05 August, 2016. The Government of the Russian Federation will be making a US\$1.5 million contribution towards the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Tajikistan to support the Committee of Emergency Situations and Civil Defense under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan to strengthen emergency preparedness and response capacities in the country.

Today UNDP held an official signing ceremony of the Project Document **“Strengthening Preparedness and Response Capacities”** project which was approved by the Russian Federation - UNDP Trust Fund for Development.

The main objective of the project *is to build the capacities of the Committee of Emergency Situations and Civil Defense under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan in preparedness to disaster response operations in the country.*

In particular, the project will focus on the following: *1) establishment of a Unified Emergency Preparedness and Response System for emergency situations; and 2) strengthening technical bases, as well as search and rescue capacities, of Tsentrospas (specialized department of the Committee responsible for search and rescue operations).*

The Project Document was signed by Lt. Gen. Mr. Rustam Nazarzoda, Chairman of the Committee of Emergency Situations and Civil Defense under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan, and Mr. Jan Harfst, UNDP Country Director and Resident Representative a.i. in Tajikistan, with His Excellency Mr. Igor Lyakin-Frolov, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Russian Federation to the Republic of Tajikistan attending the signing ceremony.

As stated by Mr. Jan Harfst: *“Emergency preparedness and response is critical for saving lives. UNDP is therefore committed to make this partnership between the Russian Federation and Tajikistan a success”.*

Mr. Rustam Nazarzoda, Chairman of the Committee of Emergency Situations and Civil Defense under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan, stated: *“We express our gratitude to the Government of the Russian Federation and UNDP for cooperation in strengthening the capacity of the Committee. This is a significant event for us and project implementation will mark major contribution to the development of technical and institutional capacity of the Committee while allowing timely response to emergency situations”.*

The Agreement on establishment of the Russian Federation-UNDP Trust Fund for Development (TFD) was signed by UNDP Administrator Helen Clark and Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov on 11 June 2015, with initial funding of US\$25 million to support development cooperation activities in developing countries around the world in the following focus areas: *sustainable development, poverty reduction, rural development, sustainable energy and management of water resources, HIV/AIDS, disaster risk reduction and emergency preparedness, disaster response and early recovery.*

UNDP partners with people at all levels of society to help build nations that can withstand crisis, and drive and sustain the kind of growth that improves the quality of life for everyone. On the ground in 177 countries and territories, we offer global perspective and local insight to help empower lives and build resilient nations.

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