

REACT Bulletin

October 2014

A monthly summary of activities by REACT members in Tajikistan

Partners approve updated REACT Statement of Common Understanding

REACT partners began a review of REACT Statement of Common Understanding in March 2013. The review continued June 2014 using a participatory approach, including a REACT Review Working Group, questionnaires, workshops, and consultation meetings. A revised Statement based on the review was submitted to REACT partners for approval in early September 2014. A majority of REACT partners needed to accept the revised Statement for it to replace the then-current Statement. By end of the voting period (24 September 2014) 20 of 37 REACT partners voted to accept the revised Statement and this revision became the official Statement for REACT. The results of the vote were sent to REACT partners by the Secretariat 26 September 2014.

REACT Secretariat is working with partners and the Co-chairs to revise the annexes to the Statement and facilitate REACT activities as set out in the new Statement.

REACT Statement is a guiding document of REACT members to coordinate their efforts of risk assessment, reduction, preparedness, response and recovery in Tajikistan. The current version can be found at: http://www.untj.net/index.php?option=com_phocadownload&view=category&id=129:react-strategic-documents&Itemid=746&lang=en

TajWSS Network Meeting

A regular meeting of the Network of Stakeholder Organizations on Sustainable Water Supply and Sanitation (TajWSS) took place at the Plaza Dushanbe in Dushanbe on 24 September 2014. Oxfam Tajikistan organized the meeting with funding from Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, Government of Switzerland.

The meeting covered partners updating each other on their activities, discussions on drinking water and sanitation issues, WASH contingency plans, outcomes of regional conferences and water related interventions.

UNICEF presented a WASH Contingency Plan for Tajikistan drafted in consultation with the WASH Cluster members, the Government the UN and others involved in development and emergency relief in Tajikistan.

Next TajWSS Network meeting will take place in 4 December 2014. More information at www.tajwss.tj



FOCUS Tajikistan establishes a Community Emergency Response Team to save lives

“I didn’t even think that I would be noticed and saved from drowning by CERT volunteers in such a crowded pool, where many children and adults come to swim every day,” said Rahmatsho, a 19 year old resident of Khorog town.

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) volunteers have served as lifeguards at the public swimming pool in the Central Park, Khorog Town since June this year to prevent swimmers from drowning. The CERT members are coordinated by the Town Park authorities and regularly mentored by FOCUS CERT trainers in collaboration with Committee of Emergency Situations and Civil Defense (CoES) in Gorno Badakhshan Autonomous Oblast.

“We are glad to serve the community with the skills and knowledge gained through FOCUS’ CERT training and practical drills,” notes Zavkilobekov Jamshed, a CERT member.

CERTs are trained in a range of disaster risk management techniques including fire safety, basic first



aid, earthquake safety, emergency evacuation and rope management to be able to respond effectively in the event of a natural or technological disasters.

Over the years, CERTs have utilized their skills during various responses. In 2010, CERTs cleared heavy snowfall in Khorog town. Villagers were evacuated by CERTs to safe areas during the floods in

Rushan district in 2010, where they also assisted with changing the direction of the debris flow. For more information: zarangez.pironova@focushumanitarian.org

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Please send short reports on project activities or events, up to 200 words, with a picture, to REACT Secretariat in Dushanbe react.dushanbe@undp.org *Items should be submitted by the first working day of the month for the Bulletin which is issued on the 7th working day of the month.*

REACT **Bulletins** can also be found at

http://untj.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=132&Itemid=565

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Questions and comments should be sent to react.dushanbe@undp.org.