

Strengthening of the peace process in Tajikistan through reintegration and demobilization support activities for former combatants



UN Trust Fund for Human Security



Fast Facts

Country: Tajikistan

Duration: November 2000 to June 2003

Implementing UN Agency: UNDP

Other Implementing Partners: UNOPS

Budget: \$676,641.42

Key Words: Ex-combatants; disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (DDR); income generation; community reconciliation

BACKGROUND

After the civil war in Tajikistan, the 1997 peace agreement between the United Tajik Opposition (UTO) and the Government stipulated a strategy for the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (DDR) of former combatants into productive civilian life. By 2000, some 2,300 demobilised UTO combatants had returned or were expected to return to civilian life; however returning combatants found few

economic or educational opportunities and were prone to turn to criminality in order to support themselves and their families. Taking the fragility of the peace process into consideration, it was recognized that the failure to reduce criminality and create employment for former combatants would severely jeopardise efforts to consolidate peace and promote national reconciliation.

PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

To reassure that the needs of ex-combatants were addressed upon return, the project aimed to (i) create jobs for ex-combatants and expand livelihoods in their host communities; (ii) generate income opportunities for local contractors and skilled labourers; (iii)

rehabilitate and reconstruct basic community infrastructure that could facilitate commerce, transportation and communication between communities; and (iv) provide humanitarian assistance to ex-combatants in order to meet their vital needs.

BENEFICIARIES

Recipients of the project were ex-combatants in the regions of Khation, Leninabad and the Karategin Valley. They obtained employment in the construction sector and as such took part in a broader effort to

rebuild the country's infrastructure which had been destroyed in the war. They also participated in vocational skills training as well as benefited from the provision of immediate humanitarian assistance.