

Improvement of the health sector in Tajikistan through training of medical specialists



UN Trust Fund for Human Security



Fast Facts

Country: Tajikistan

Duration: January 2000 to February 2002

Implementing UN Agency: UNDP

Other Implementing Partners: UNOPS; academic medical institutions; health departments; hospitals

Budget: \$181,259.91

Key Words: Access to health care; capacity-building

BACKGROUND

The collapse of the Soviet Union led to a civil war and precipitous economic decline in Tajikistan. As a result, damaged or outdated health facilities and equipment could not be maintained or upgraded, and stocks of medicines and medical supplies began to dwindle. Furthermore, funds to pay salaries of medical personnel were inadequate and as a result medical staff began to leave rural areas to find employment elsewhere. The combination of these factors together

with an increasing problem of drug abuse, a burgeoning narcotics trade and persistent poverty, threatened to further destabilize the state of human security in Tajikistan and its neighbouring countries. Subsequently, strengthening the capacity of local medical personnel to care for those in need became a major priority for the Government and the local population.

PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The project intended to improve the health-care sector in Tajikistan by (i) training physicians, nurses and midwives in their specialized fields; (ii) strengthening

the institutional capacity of health facilities in the target areas; and (iii) increasing access to quality medical care for local populations.

BENEFICIARIES

The project reached a population of approximately 1,403,000 people in three rural areas of Tajikistan (Kulyab, Shartuz and Gharm) with the provision of improved health-care services. Additionally,

beneficiaries included physicians, midwives and nurses who undertook medical training to upgrade their skills and expertise.