



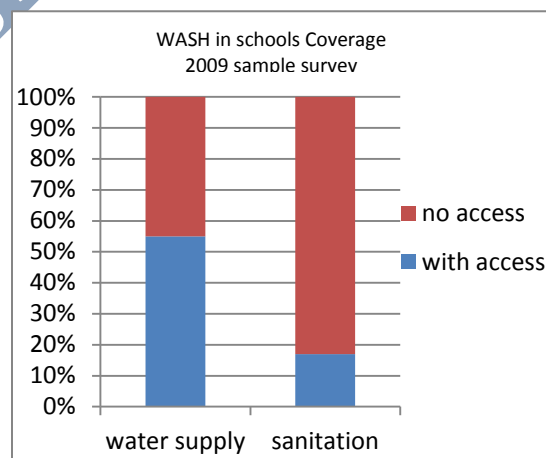
## WASH in Schools Country Profile Tajikistan

### A. Policy Environment for WASH in Schools

- In 2010, the Ministry of Education being the lead agency in promoting improved WASH in schools started the development of Guidelines on recommended national standards on WASH in schools with the technical support of UNICEF. The guidelines are intended to be used by all school administration in the country to promote better water, sanitation and hygiene facilities in schools. The guidelines are currently undergoing the revision and finalization process and due to be adopted in 2011.
- The Ministry of Education is currently revising the curriculum for the shift to twelve-year education and intends to include hygiene education as one of the key topics for the 'class hours' within the existing National Programme on Healthy Life style.
- In view of the current reform process in education on 'twelve year education', Ministry of Education is revising the National Strategy for Education Development (NSED) 2020. UNICEF is providing technical support and advocates on inclusion of issues on improved WASH in schools and hygiene education as one of the priority areas in the strategy.
- UNICEF, Save the Children, CESVI, Oxfam are the key partners for WASH in schools.

### B. Quality and Coverage of WASH in Schools Programming

- Since 2002, UNICEF in collaboration with Ministry of Education of Republic of Tajikistan promotes the implementation of WASH in schools programme by providing safe drinking water supply, improved sanitation and hygiene education in schools of the country. Only with UNICEF support, children in over 400 schools (10% of schools) benefited from improved WASH. Other agencies, like Save the Children, CESVI, COOPI, ACTED, KfW and others, have adopted UNICEF WASH in schools programme and within different years improved WASH in another estimated 10% of schools.
- UNICEF and Ministry of education are currently revising the WASH in schools programme to develop a new framework within the changing environment and ensure that UNICEF support in the area of WASH contributes effectively towards fulfilling the objectives of the new UNICEF-Government of Tajikistan Country Programme for 2010-2015. 65% of schools in 8 priority districts are targeted to be provided with improved WASH by the end of the current country programme.
- UNICEF advocates for leveraging resources on WASH in schools. One of the best examples is cooperation within FTI and KfW within the programmes on construction of schools, where water and sanitary facilities are included now to be constructed/ improved too. UNICEF provides technical expertise and contributes with the 'software' component. Thus, around 80 new schools are expected to be built with WASH in 2010-2012.
- In 2010, UNICEF agreed with the Ministry of Education to integrate key indicators on WASH into the current Education Management Information System (EMIS) and it is planned to be launched in September 2011. Those indicators primary focus on availability, type and use of water and sanitation facilities. The revised EMIS is expected to fill the gap on unavailability of national data on WASH in schools.
- UNICEF is working closely with USAID on initiation of Demographic and Health Survey (DHS) with the field work to be commenced in 2012. Funded by USAID, under the technical supervision of Macro International Agency, and locally implemented by the State Agency of Statistics and Ministry of Health, the survey will provide national information on WASH related indicators inclusively.



### C. Highlights and Main Challenges for WASH in Schools

- The sustainability of school WASH facilities is a challenge with limited resources and capacity for school operation and maintenance, particularly in rural schools.
- There is a need for more local evidence for WASH in Schools and improved monitoring. Through the coordination with the statistics unit at the Ministry of Education, EMIS will integrate WASH key WASH indicators.
- Lack of sustainable funding for developing WASH in Schools.

### D. Reference Materials



Following WASH in Schools documents are attached.

1	National Plan of Action/National Strategy Documents	<input type="radio"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No
2	Concept note on Repositioned WASH in schools programme (UNICEF-Government)	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No
3	Hygiene Promotion Guidelines and Materials	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No
4	EMIS Questionnaire	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No

#### WASH related data

- Coverage on water supply 70% (MICS 2005); 93% urban and 61% rural
- Coverage sanitation 93.7% (MICS 2005); 97% urban and 92% rural (with pit toilet considered as improved type);
- 62% coverage on water supply; 14.7% coverage on improved sanitation (TLSS 2007);
- 19.2% of under-five mortality due to diarrhoea (Black et al, 2010). This is far higher than the rates in neighbouring countries, higher than global average (15%) and about the same as average for Africa (19%);
- Principal causes of child mortality: diarrhoea (19.2%) and pneumonia (21%) (Black et al, 2010)

#### WASH in Schools related data

- Primary school attendance rate is 97.3% and 76.1% in basic school (TLSS 2007); 99.3% of the enrolled school children reach grade 5 (MICS 2005)
- 55% of schools have any kind of water supply (not necessarily safe) and only 17% have appropriate sanitary facilities (sample survey 2009).
- 63% of primary school age children (6-11) have worm infections (MoH 2004)