

PEI Tajikistan

Theory of Change

2014-2017



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Context and Problem Statement

Tajikistan is a country with around 93% of territory covered by mountains. Only 7% of the territory is therefore considered to be suitable for economic land use. The country's 947 streams account for over 60% of water resources of Central Asia. Ranking 129 out of 187 on the Human Development Index (2015), Tajikistan is considered the poorest country in the region. In 2012 46.7 percent of the population was deemed poor with more than 70% of the population living in rural areas a majority of them being women and children due to male labor migration of men to Russia. Agriculture employs 60% of the total workforce and a further 20% are dependent on the sector. Land degradation is a key factor leading to low agricultural productivity and low economic returns and incomes. In addition weak public administration, lack of implementation of reforms and laws at the local level, are key barriers to sustainable development.

Barriers Analysis

1. Lack of disaggregated data, (including with respect to gender and poverty), and lack of capacity (technical and human) to analyze, interpret and apply available data to adequately inform the design, implementation and monitoring of policy actions.
2. Weak coherence between national P-E objectives and sector/district budget allocations, including due to inadequate institutional capacity and management systems for coordinating budget allocations and other investments with national objectives to address climate change and improve natural resource management.

Project Objective and Assumption

Objective

To enhance implementation of local development policies, plans and budgets that combine environmental sustainability and poverty eradication to contribute to achievement of the SDGs.

Assumptions

With political stability, P-E mainstreaming will remain of strategic relevance to the government's evolving policy path to sustainable development and achieving a green economy. Evidence-based decision making around the P-E nexus will improve cross-sector coordination and integrated planning and budgeting processes, leading to increased investments in integrated water and better land management.

PEI Interventions

In response to identified challenges, PEI focuses efforts in two key areas with capacity building as a crosscutting objective:

P-E approaches and tools for integrated development policies, plans and coordination mechanisms applied

Collect sector and local evidence around the poverty, environment and gender nexus to inform planning and budgeting for pro-poor environmental sustainability.

Build the knowledge base around environment-economic accounting systems towards institutionalization of cross-sectoral budget and medium-term expenditure frameworks.

Progress

Water Sector Reform Programme for the period 2016-2025 approved and Public Environment Expenditure Review (PEER) of the water sector in Tajikistan completed.

National Development Strategy (NDS) for period of 2016-2030, the Mid-term Development Programme (MTDP) 2016-2020 integrates pro-poor environmental sustainability objectives and indicators.

Sixty district development plans out of total 68 districts integrate pro-poor environmental sustainability objectives and indicators.

Law on Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA) drafted, pending approval in 2016.

Government commitment to apply Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) methodology as a tool for P-E mainstreaming following its integration in its national plan 2016-2020 as one out of six priority areas.

Remaining Interventions

Develop sector policy briefs based on key findings of the PEER of the water sector to make the case for increased investment through establishment of the Steering Committee for "National Policy Dialogue on Integrated Water Resources Management".

Develop a methodology for the introduction of the System for Environmental and Economic Accounting (SEEA) in the system of national accounts.

Promote cross-sectoral budget and expenditure reviews at the sub-national level in the water sector as the Ministry of Energy and Water Resources (MEWR) is in the process of implementing sub-sector programme reforms.

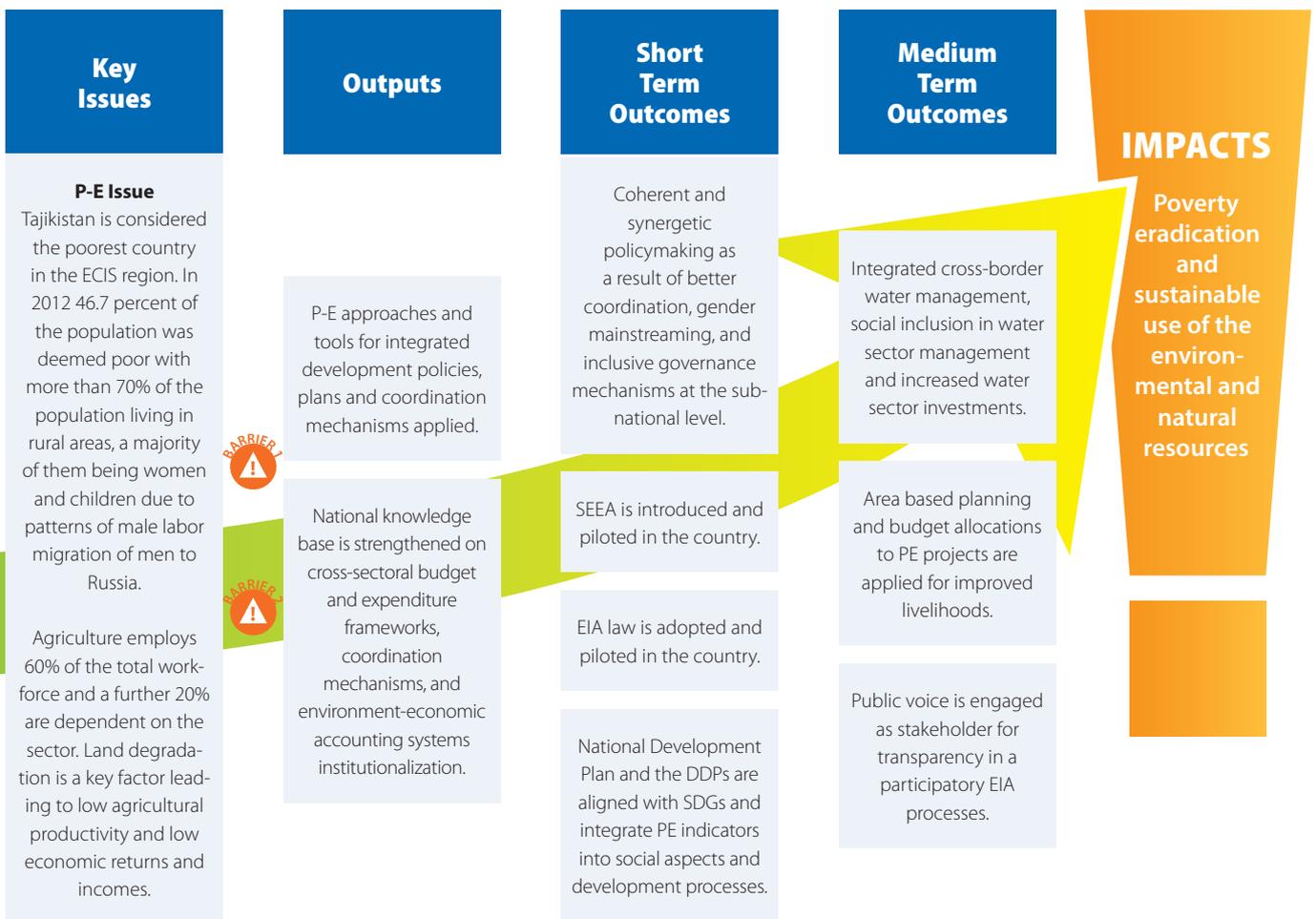
Integrate P-E objectives in the 6 remaining local development plans (4 districts and 2 cities).

Support the formulation of SMART gender – environment indicators and their application in upcoming planning, and monitoring processes. For example, in the review of the new Agricultural Census.

Annex: ToC Diagram

Assumptions

With political stability, poverty-environment mainstreaming will remain of strategic relevance to the government's evolving policy path to sustainable development and achieving a green economy. Evidence-based decision making around the poverty-environment nexus will improve cross-sector coordination and integrated planning and budgeting processes, leading to increased investments in integrated water and better land management.



Barriers: 1) Disaggregated data 2) Coherence between national PE objectives and sector/district budget allocations