



February 2008

Creating an Institutional Framework for Improving Water Systems Management in Rural Areas

This Pilot and Demonstration Activities (PDA) helped create a new institutional framework for the establishment of Water Consumer Protection Committees (WCPCs) to improve water systems management in Tajikistan's rural areas.



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Snapshot

Project site	Jomi District, Tajikistan
Cost	US\$ 45,000
Status	Completed
Approval date	April 2007
Completion date	February 2008
Category	Rural
ADB officer	Firuza Mukhamedjanova
Partner	Cooperazione Internazionale-Tajikistan

Report card

Completed in February 2008, this PDA

- Helped form 3 WCPCs. All 3 are now legally registered. The first WCPC serves the Chikalov and Kurultoi villages; the second serves the Zaria Vastok and Udarnik villages; and the third serves the village of Komsomol. All 3 WCPCs serve a total of 5 villages in Ittifogh jamoat, Jomi district.
- Organized 4 working meetings between WCPCs and the DWSS management agency. These round table meetings highlighted the real needs of the communities, encouraged stakeholders' participation in solving their water problems, and clarified the communities' role in implementing solutions.
- Supported the completion of all rehabilitation works. A common plan of action was arranged between the WCPC and the Agency.

Read the [final report](#).

Description

There is much room for improvement in the management of drinking water supply systems (DWSS) in Tajikistan's rural areas. Several management schemes have been experimented by local governments—districts may have one district-wide agency, or several parallel agencies with the same purpose acting at the jamoat (local administrative unit below the district government) level, or multiple agencies that co-exist but with no clear hierarchical structure.

In most cases, these agencies' performance is hindered by lack of financial resources and the discontinuity and unreliability of revenues from water consumers. Meanwhile, most consumers who are willing to pay regularly for good and reliable water supply services have no trust in the management capacity of government agencies.

This PDA helped create a new DWSS management scheme that takes into account the separation of the “service provider” and “quality controller” roles, and the active participation of the water users. The new management framework will pave the way for the establishment of independent, village-level Water Consumer Protection Committees (WCPCs) in three villages of Jomi district, where a DWSS managing agency was created by the local government in 2005.

Expected outcomes

- WCPCs formed in 3 villages of Jomi district
- Working meetings between WCPCs and the DWSS managing agency
- Rehabilitation works in target villages
- Plan of Action and timetable for improvement of water supply services
- Enhanced tariff structure to cover O&M costs and eventually to move towards full cost recovery

Related

- More on water and sanitation
- Tajikistan and ADB
- Pilot and Demonstration Activities
- Final Report (February 2008)
- Midterm Report (July 2007)
- Inception Report (June 2007)
- Proposal (March 2007)

Sourced from <https://www.adb.org//results/water-pda-creating-institutional-framework-improving-water-systems-management-rural-areas>