



USAID | **TAJIKISTAN**
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

**MEMORANDUM OF PARTNERSHIP
BETWEEN
THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL PROTECTION OF POPULATION
OF THE REPUBLIC OF TAJIKISTAN
AND
THE UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
FOR
REDUCING TUBERCULOSIS IN TAJIKISTAN**

I. PURPOSE

The Ministry of Health and Social Protection of Population of the Republic of Tajikistan (MoHSPP) and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) (collectively the “Participants” and individually a “Participant”) share the mutual goal of improving the cost-effective delivery of healthcare services in Tajikistan, particularly with respect to reducing the burden of tuberculosis (TB), with a focus on ending the spread of multi-drug and extensively-drug resistant varieties of TB (DR-TB).

This Memorandum of Partnership (hereinafter named “MoP”) sets forth the mutual understanding of the Participants to work together to achieve this shared goal during the next five years. The specific purpose of this MoP is to outline the Participants’ understandings regarding USAID’s potential provision of assistance to the Republic of Tajikistan’s National TB Program (NTP) for improved TB control. This assistance is expected to be provided through USAID-funded health activities which currently include USAID TB Control, Challenge TB, the Stop TB Partnership, other national-level and regional systems strengthening activities, as well as potential future TB related activities (collectively referred to herein as “the Projects”) that seek to achieve the same or similar goals.

The Projects are a key component of the United States Government’s technical and economic assistance program in Tajikistan under the *Agreement between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of Tajikistan Regarding Cooperation to Facilitate the Provision of Assistance*, signed in Dushanbe on September 13, 1993 (“the 1993 Framework Agreement”), and the Participants intend activities under this MoP to be subject to the 1993 Framework Agreement.

II. SHARED OBJECTIVES OF THE PARTICIPANTS

To achieve this objective, a substantial number of interventions are needed in multiple technical areas. The Participants intend to jointly address the following key technical areas that are critical to ending the existence of TB in Tajikistan:

1. Enhance the leadership and technical capacity of the Ministry of Health and Social Protection of Population's TB program at national and sub-national levels to effectively coordinate, finance, guide and manage the implementation of TB control activities;
2. Implement innovative, proven, and effective strategies and tools for improving TB case finding and treatment outcomes to meet national strategic plan targets;
3. Improve the programmatic management of DR-TB through the use of a patient-oriented approach for TB treatment;
4. Ensure uninterrupted availability of commodities for diagnostics and treatment of TB that have adequate international quality assurance;
5. Improve the availability of and access to quality and effective TB laboratory diagnostic services; including X-ray technologies;
6. Strengthen private sector engagement and community systems for TB control;
7. Improve data collection, analysis, reporting and use of data for decision making, including a commitment by both Participants to develop shared targets; and
8. Enhance results monitoring, evaluation, and operations research, with a focus on building local academic/research capacity.

In this context, the Participants intend to:

- Develop a joint annual specific action plan between the Participants and other stakeholders (Global Fund, National TB Program, and others);
- Monitor progress, share information and data, review learnings, and evaluate and report on progress;
- Meet no less than once a quarter, or as needed, to define the specific activities to be carried out and provide the necessary guidance to implementing partners;
- Jointly plan and organize any launch or dissemination events related to TB program activities; and
- Participate in a regular (e.g., semi-annual and annual) performance review process, including joint annual reviews of implementation of the national health strategy of the Republic of Tajikistan for the period of 2010-2020 in the *Service Delivery* component, to jointly review performance data, technical reports and accountability records from both Participants.

III. PLANNED ACTIVITIES OF THE PARTICIPANTS

A. USAID

In support of achieving the goal/objective outlined above, USAID intends to carry out the following activities:



1. Participating in a joint annual action planning process between MOHSPP and all other relevant partners, to assess results and come to consensus on TB interventions by MOHSPP and by USAID-funded activities;
2. Providing technical assistance, as necessary, to strengthen capacity and achieve results;
3. Providing technical assistance and in-kind support to the MOHSPP to conduct specified activities consistent with the joint annual action plan;
4. Seconding TB experts to key roles within the MOHSPP to serve as TB Advisors for the NTP;
5. Assisting with the improvement of monitoring and evaluation systems and the quality of data collection and analysis.

B. MOHSPP

In support of achieving the goal/objective outlined above, MOHSPP intends to carry out the following activities:

1. Including the commitments and targets which were decided at the High Level Meeting on TB at the United Nations General Assembly on September 2018, in the Tajikistan National Strategic Plan to fight TB for 2020-2025, and in the Tajikistan National Health Strategy for the period till 2030;
2. Convening a high-level group to establish and monitor a Multisectoral Accountability Framework for TB involving all key stakeholders;
3. Supporting an uninterrupted supply of quality assured TB drugs, effective drug management system;
4. Improving the host government organizations' capacity to collect and analyze data for performance monitoring and evaluation, using existing e-TB register OpenMRS;
5. Adopting and implementing relevant national guidelines and strategies;
6. Convening, participating in and documenting a joint annual action planning process between MOHSPP, all other relevant partners, and USAID, to assess results and to come to consensus on TB interventions by MOHSPP and by USAID-funded activities;
7. Ensuring sufficient work space and logistics to host USAID-seconded TB Advisor/s in accordance with the procedures set by local legislation; and
8. Consistent with local laws and regulations, sharing routine TB data with USAID-funded Advisors and projects in a timely manner to further the joint objectives outlined in this MoP.

To measure progress towards the objectives, the Participants intend to identify outcomes including but not limited to the following:

- Improved information database on TB in accordance with the legislation of the Republic of Tajikistan;
- Improved laboratory diagnostics for DR-TB cases;



- Increased Drug Susceptibility Testing for TB and DR-TB cases;
- Improved DR-TB notification for new cases (all forms: rifampicin resistant, multidrug resistant, pre-extensively drug-resistant, extensively drug-resistant);
- Improved DR-TB treatment success indicators;
- Increase of DR-TB cases enrolled on appropriate treatment regimens;
- Reduced time to initiate appropriate DR-TB treatment regimens, registration indicators;
- Increase of DR-TB cases enrolled in individual treatment regimens or shortened treatment regimens; and
- Improved ability to finance healthcare services to reduce DR-TB burden.

IV. GENERAL INTENTIONS OF THE PARTICIPANTS

The Participants intend to carry out their respective activities under this MoP in conformity with their respective legal and policy authorities.

The Participants intend to join efforts and to maintain a close working relationship in order to achieve the objectives of this collaboration.

The Participants intend to respect each other's policies, as appropriate, with the mutual understanding that the Participants intend to publicize their collaboration under this MoP and its objectives without, to the extent compatible with applicable laws, disclosing any information shared by one Participant with another that it has designated as non-public or proprietary.

The Participants intend to coordinate with each other on all press releases or public statements regarding partnership activities under this MoP.

Nothing in this MoP imposes any legal rights or obligations under international or domestic law or constitutes any commitment of funds or obligations on either Participant.

V. GENERAL PROVISIONS

This MoP may be modified by written consent of the Participants.

This MoP is intended to become operative on the date of signature of both Participants and is intended to remain operative for five years.

This MoP may be discontinued by mutual consent of the Participants or by either Participant individually at any time, but a Participant should endeavor to provide thirty (30) days' prior written notices to the other Participant of its intent to do so.



This MoP is prepared in the English and Russian languages

VI. NOTICES AND POINTS OF CONTACT

Any notices pursuant to this MoP should be given in writing and delivered to the following point of contacts:

a. In the case of MOHSPP:

Odinazoda Aziz Abdusattor
Deputy Minister of Health and Social Protection of Population of the Republic of
Tajikistan
Ministry of Health and Social Protection of Population
Republic of Tajikistan
Dushanbe 734025
69, Shevchenko str.

b. In the case of USAID:

Mr. Paul Richardson,
USAID/Central Asia
Tajikistan Country Office Director
U.S. Embassy, Dushanbe
109A Ismoili Somoni Avenue
Dushanbe Tajikistan 734019


Each Participant may elect to designate a technical point of contact for day-to-day Project-related issues by written notice to the other at the address indicated above.

**Ministry of Health and Social
Protection of Population of the
Republic of Tajikistan**


Date: 26.09.2019
Nasim Khoja Olimzoda
Minister of Health and Social
Protection of Population of the
Republic of Tajikistan

**United States Agency for International
Development**


Date: 09/26/2019
Christopher Edwards
Mission Director, Central Asia

