



**Equitable Access to Education and
Development for Girls and Women
Improving women's and girls' hygienic
situation in rural Tajikistan through
implementing UDDT in schools and
women development centers (WDC)**

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REPUBLIC OF TAJIKISTAN

Republic of Tajikistan –

Southeast of the Central Asia,

- It borders with: Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, China and Afghanistan.
- 93% of territory occupied with mountains
- The smallest on the territory the Central – Asian republic of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS).
- 2009 the population of Tajikistan has exceeded 7,5 million people.



National Symbol and Flag

HYGIENE AND SANITATION SITUATION IN RURAL SCHOOLS

- Lack of awareness and information on sanitation and hygiene;
- Absence of strategic national and local programs on sustainable sanitation
- Lack of resources (human, material, financial);
- Lack of proper water supply.



In rural schools there are no elementary conditions for its use (water, separate room for girls). Absence of separate toilets and facilities in schools for hygiene during menstruation is the cause of irregular attendance and leaving the school by girls.

The importance of water, sanitation and hygiene for health and development is reflected in one of the tasks within the framework of the Millennium Development United Nations:" to reduce in half in period of 1990-2015 years the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and elementary sanitation facilities".



Set up of Women Development Centers (WDC)

The Women Development Centers (WDC) in Northern Tajikistan, in the target areas of the NGO ASDP Nau, united not only the economic or the above income-bearing activities, but other socio-cultural events where the participation of women in different sectors of community development should focus on communities. The WDC and the schools are of high importance for women and girls to break the cycle of poverty.



However, there are a number of problematic issues, which should receive special attention. This is to ensure sanitation and hygiene in the WDCs and in schools. When monitoring sites have been identified that women and girls do not have sanitary facilities they need during the stay in the WDCs and school. Women and girls try not to use the toilet. The existing toilet does not provide the required privacy, do not have doors. Some WDC s do not have toilet at all. In the critical (the period of menstruation) days, women and teen girls do not have any conditions which are necessary for them during that time. Because of this, they did not attend centers or classes in those days.



Sustainable Sanitation in WDC and schools

ASDP Nau is the pioneer in the project realization on introduction of eco sanitation in Northern Tajikistan. At present moment, there are built altogether 35 eco-toilets, including: 26 in households, 6 in schools, 1 WDC, 2 demonstrational in our demo plot, these are constructed with the help of ASDP Nau projects and communities' contribution in target regions. www.agencynau.tj

ASDP Nau built with the financial support of NatraCare and WECF 3 toilet facilities for 2 rural schools and 1 for Women Development Center in autumn 2010 for 1046 beneficiaries. The objective was to improve the health, hygiene and school attendance of the girls and women's in WDC by implementing safe and sustainable sanitation in the target district.



Monitoring and consultation



The toilets are UDDT and equipped with hygiene rooms with hot water for ablution . The solar collector is installed in the UDDT for heating the water. The UDDT are provided with a device for anal cleansing, which is very important for hygiene in the Muslimic culture.



The operation and maintenance of the new toilet facilities is ensured through the set up of a parents committee for the schools and women income in the WDC



The urine and faecal matter will be used in the demonstration plots in order to show the benefits of fertilize. Farmers are interested in fertilizes and ready to buy them from WDC and schools because it's more cheaper than other fertilizers.







RESUME

Joint assessment of social problems and finding out of better solutions on sustainable hygiene & sanitation in rural Tajikistan needs active participation of all the stakeholders - local authorities, community members , & development agencies, in the in decision making processes, control over local resources and regular evaluation of the situation in the region.



References

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