Monitoring & Early Warning in Tajikistan

MONTHLY REPORT

FEBRUARY 2013



Map of Tajikistan Legend Asht Capital Mastchoh Administrative Center Khujand Town Spitamen Jabber Rasulov District Istaravshan Gandhi UZBEKISTAN **KYRGYZSTAN** Shahriston 1:2 400 338 CHINA Nurabad Tavildara Dushanbe Vahdat Fayzabad Tursunzade Baldjuyon Khovaling Obiklik Temurmalik Kuybishevsk Kurgan-Tube Sarband Shuroobod Vakhsh Khamadoni Kolkhozobod Khorog Dusti **AFGHANISTAN**

GENERAL TRENDS

NATURAL HAZARDS

In February there is a high likelihood of heavy snowfall, freezing temperatures and avalanches. Mudflow and floods are also expected at the lower elevations of the country. Above average precipitation projected for February may increase the likelihood of heavy snowfall and avalanches (see below).

WEATHER

In February, temperatures will be above long term averages. Precipitation is expected to be above averages nationwide.

ENERGY SECURITY

The electricity production in January 2013 increased 2.1% compared to December, 2012. Water levels in Nurek are near average for this time of year.

FOOD SECURITY

Wheat flour prices remain at or close to historic highs in the main and regional markets of the country. High prices are likely to continue and place pressure on vulnerable families to meet food needs.

HEALTH

In February 2013, an increase in acute respiratory infections is expected due the fluctuation of temperatures and the start of the second semester in high schools. Currently the prevalence of Type B influenza (H3N2) is the same as Type A influenza (H1N1).

MIGRATION AND REMITTANCES

Cumulative out migration levels were higher in January 2013 than the same period last year. Remittances are running at higher levels in January 2012 (+8%) than for January 2012. However, a seasonal drop in migration and remittances is expected through March 2013.

ECONOMY

November 2012, GDP totaled 36.1 billion Tajik Somoni (7.6 billion USD). Industrial production increased by 10.4% compared to the same period in 2011. Consumer price inflation is 6.4%, down from 9.3% last year. Total bank credits as of 1 January 2013 totaled 5.4 billion Tajik Somoni (1.13 billion USD). The amount of credit provided in different sectors of economy reached 7.0 billion Somoni (1.47 billion USD). The 2012 foreign trade turnover equaled 5.1 billion USD, 15.1% more than the same period in 2011. Exports totaled 1.4 billion USD and imports 3.8 billion USD.

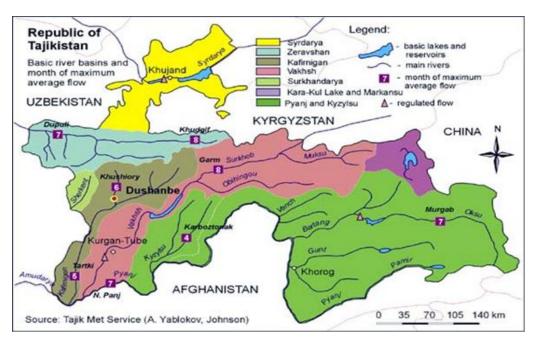
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1. HAZARDOUS EVENTS

1.1. Possible Events in February 2013

The Information Management and Analytical Center (IMAC), Committee of Emergency Situations and Civil Defense (CoES), Government of Tajikistan, reports that based on multi-year observations emergencies expected in February will be largely caused by snowfall, freezing weather and avalanches. There is also the risk of mudflows (at lower elevations of Khatlon Province and Direct Rule Districts (DRD)) and flooding (Yakhsu and Kizilsu Rivers, and downstream areas of the Kafirnigan River).



	Historical Data on Hazard Events in February													
	2000-2012													
Type of Hazard	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	Total
Flooding		1												1
Avalanches		3		11	3	14	5		4	4	2	1	7	54
Severe Freezing			1	1				1	1				2	6
Rainfall			1	1	2	1		3		1	3		2	14
Snowfall			2	4	2	24	2	3	4	3	3		7	54
Strong Winds			4	7	5			1	2				1	20
Earthquake		1	2	1			1	7	1		2	1		16
Landslides		1	2	2	1	4	2	1	1					14
High Ground Water	1					1			2					4
River flooding	1	1				1					1			4
Total	2	7	12	27	13	45	10	16	15	8	11	2	19	187

1.2. Hazard Events in January 2013

CoES reported five hazard events in January 2013:

- On 1 January at 2043 an earthquake ranking 3 on the 12 point MSK scale occurred at an epicenter 7 km to southeast of Dushanbe. No casualties reported.
- On 13 January at 1200 an avalanche killed 2 people and blocked the road between Askalon and Sharkho villages of Rasht District.
- On 22 January at 0640 an avalanche blocked the Dushanbe-Chanak of Varzob region road at 61 km from Dushanbe and covered a car. No casualties reported.
- On 22 January at 2009 an earthquake ranking 4 on the 12 points MSK scale occurred with an epicenter 270 km to southeast of Dushanbe. No casualties reported.
- On 31 January at 1030 hours an avalanche blocked the Labijar-Tavildara road (Tavildara District (3 km from Labijar and 23 km from Childara). No casualties reported.

For the latest detailed information see the online disaster overview situation report for January 2013 prepared by UNDP DRMP and CoES at:

http://untj.org/country-context/coordination-mechanisms/disaster-management/disaster-situation-reports/52-disaster-situation-reports

2. WEATHER CONDITIONS

2.1. Forecast for February 2013. 1

The Tajik Hydrometeorology Center forecasts that the average temperatures in February 2013 will be:

- 1.5 to 2.5°C above long-term averages at lower elevations of DRD, and in Khatlon and Sughd Provinces;
- 0.5 to 1.5°C above long-term averages at higher elevation of DRD, and in western GBAO.
- 3 to 4°C above, the long-term average in eastern GBAO.

Monthly precipitation is expected to be above the long-term averages during a month in all regions. See **Annex A** for a more detailed forecast for February 2013.

Average Expected Precipitation - February 2013								
Re	gion	Precipitation						
Khatlon Province	Lower elevations	28-150 mm						
Province	Foothills	100-150 mm						
Sughd	Lower elevations	17-38 mm						
Province	Higher elevations	9-20 mm						
DRD	Lower elevations	28-150 mm						
טאט	Higher elevations	37-140 mm						
GBAO	West	9-50 mm						
UDAU	East	4-15 mm						

2.2. Weather Summary for January 2013

In January, weather in Tajikistan was moderately cold. Average monthly temperatures for lower elevation districts were 1 to 2°C above the long-term average, except in some

¹ The information in Sections 2.1 and 2.2 and Annex A is based on reports from the State Agency for Hydrometeorology of Tajikistan.

locations (e.g., Parkhar, Khovaling and Istravshan) where temperatures were 1°C below the long term averages. At higher elevations, temperatures were 1 to 2°C below the long-term averages. Average temperatures were:

- At lower elevations and in the foothills, 1 to 3°C,
- At higher elevations, 5 to 10°C (in Darvaz, 2°C)
- At higher elevations of GBAO, 15 to -17°C (in Bulunkul, 24°C).

The warmest weather was observed from 8 to 11 and 19 to 31 January, when the daytime temperatures at lower elevations reached 11 to 20°C, with average temperatures 4 to 9°C above the long term averages.

The lowest temperature was observed on 1 to 4, 13, and 15 to 17 January, when the daytime temperature at the lower elevations did not exceed -4 to 1°C and the nighttime temperatures were -6 to -12°C. In southern part of the country, temperatures were -13 to -15°C. In the first decade of the month, in all parts of the country nighttime temperatures at the higher elevations dropped to -15 to -20°C, and during the daytime were from -10 to -15°C.

Fog was observed occasionally during the month. Wind speeds reached to 65-83 km/h.

Monthly precipitation in most parts of the country was below the long term averages,

except some parts of Sughd Province (Penjikent, Iskandarkul and Dekhavze) and DRD (Dushanbe, Maykhura and Khushyori), where the precipitation was above the long term averages.

Actual Monthly Precipitation						
Region	% of average					
Sughd Province	23-66 %					
Khatlon Province	23-66%					
DRD	50-117%					
Western GBAO	59-127%					
Eastern GBAO	37-122%					

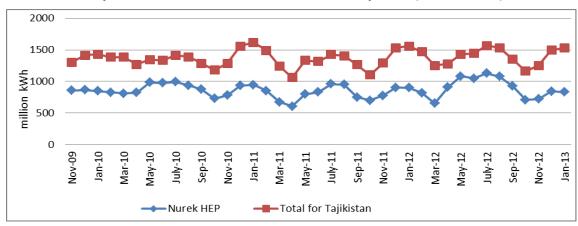
3. ENERGY

3.1. Electricity Production ²

Barki Tojik reported that total electricity generation in January was 1,527 million kilowatthours (kWh), or an average of 49.3 million kWh per day. Electricity production in January increased by 2.1% (48.3 million kWh) compared to December 2012.

Electricity production in January 2013 was 29 million kWh less than in January 2012 (See Section 3.5, below.). (*Contact the MEWS Center at earlywarning.tj@undp.org* for historical data on electricity production).

² Data on electricity generation and consumption is provided by the Monitoring and Early Warning System (MEWS) GoT expert from Barki Tojik.

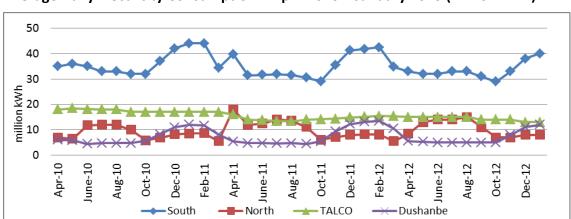


Total Electricity Production – November 2009 – January 2013 (million kWh)

3.2. Electricity Consumption

Average daily consumption of electricity by major regions of Tajikistan and by the Tajik Aluminium Company (TALCO), the largest commercial energy consumer, is indicated in the following table. Total electricity consumption in January was 1,484 million kWh, 33% more than in December 2012. In January, 2013 electricity consumption was 69 million kWh less than in January 2012 (1,553 million kWh).

Electricity rationing began in October 2012 to allow Nurek to manage reduced inflows from the Vakhsh River and maintain sufficient reservoir levels to meet needs for the whole winter. (Contact the MEWS Center at early-warning.tj@undp.org for historical data on electricity consumption).



Average Daily Electricity Consumption – April 2010 – January 2013 (million kWh)

3.3. Natural Gas

Tajikistan only produces a limited quantity of natural gas. Historically, the major supply of (piped) natural gas has been Uzbekistan, with the major users being industry, particularly TALCO and Tajcement. Most domestic use of piped gas stopped due to cost and earlier supply problems.

Piped natural gas is no longer being imported to Tajikistan from Uzbekistan as the supply contract, which expired at the end of 2012, has not been renewed. Tajik authorities are attempting to finalize a new supply contact with Uzbekistan but efforts have not been successful as of the date of this report.

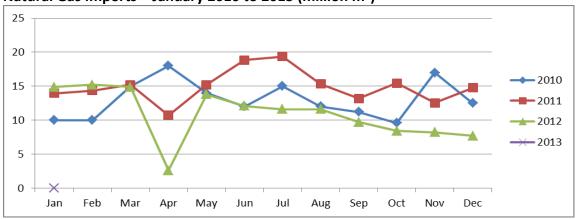
TALCO is using synthetic gas produced from coal; while Tajcement is currently stop using piped gas.

Tajikistan also imports liquefied gas by tanker and rail car. Details on these imports will be provided in the next MEWS report.

Natural Gas Imports by Tajikistan, 2004 - 2012

Year	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	January 2013
million m ³	622,5	629	635	644,7	512,7	216,7	156,3	178,95	132,4	0

Natural Gas Imports - January 2010 to 2013 (million m³)



3.4. Coal

According to the Ministry of Energy and Industry, 15,030 tons of coal were produced in January 2013, 323 tons more than in December 2012, and 8,271 tons more than in the same period of January 2012. Coal production has increased due to a shift from more expensive natural gas and electricity to more economical coal.

From 2007 up to date 154 industrial enterprises have shifted to coal, and the annual need is estimated at 205,380 tons. Household heating, particularly in rural areas, is also a major use of coal.

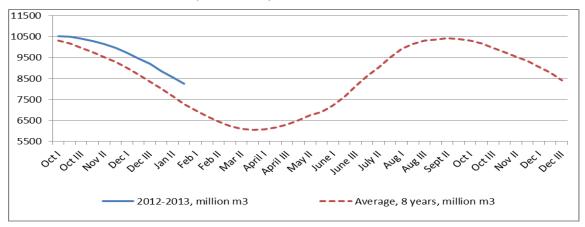
3.5. Nurek HEP Reservoir Levels

The Water Volume – Nurek HEP chart below shows the volume of the water in the Nurek Hydro-Electric Power reservoir at the end of January 2013 compared to average volume over the last eight years (2004 to 2012). In late January, 2013 the water level in Nurek HEP was 884.77 meters above sea level, 10.6 meters lower when compared to December, 2012 and 27.77 m above the "dead level" (857 m)³.

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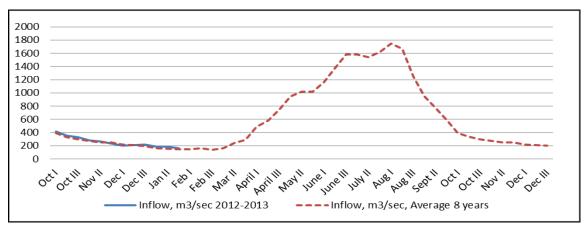
³ Data obtained from Barki Tojik

Water Volume - Nurek HEP (million m³)



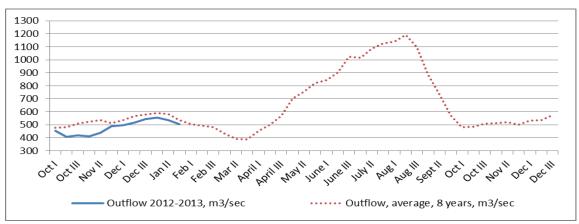
The Water Inflow – Nurek HEP chart below shows water inflows into the Nurek HEP. At the end of January 2013, the water inflow was 159 m³/sec, 15.1 m³/sec above the 2004-2012 average of 143.9 m³/sec.

Water Inflow - Nurek HEP (million m³)



As indicated in the **Water Outflow – Nurek HEP** chart below, releases from Nurek HEP in the end of January averaged 504 m³/sec, less than the eight-year average (537.8 m³/sec).

Water Outflow - Nurek HEP (m3/sec)



4. FOOD SECURITY

4.1. Summary of Reports

The January Famine Early Warning System Network (FewsNet) PRICE WATCH: December Food Prices, reports, "In Tajikistan, wheat grain and flour prices were stable in December 2012 due to increased supplies from Kazakhstan where prices were stable at high levels. These prices were well above their respective 2011 and five-year average levels as a result of high export prices from Kazakhstan, the country's main source of wheat and wheat flour imports, and high transport costs. The greatest increase was observed in Khujand where wheat grain and flour prices where 17 and 38 percent above their 2011 levels, respectively. Vegetable oil and meat prices were stable or slightly decreased country-wide due to increased local and imported supplies. Potato prices rose sharply in December due to inadequate supplies as a result of high input costs such as fertilizer and high transport cost to supply regional markets. Fuel prices were stable at high levels between November and December 2012."

"Outlook. In the next months, wheat and wheat flour export prices from Kazakhstan and rice and wheat flour from Pakistan are expected to remain at their current high levels. In Tajikistan, wheat and wheat flour prices are expected to remain stable at high levels or increase moderately in February or March, due to high and increased prices in Kazakhstan and as households deplete their own stocks by February or March and rely more or market purchases. Higher transport costs will affect food prices in remote areas, particularly during the cold season as accessing these areas become more difficult. However, fuel prices may decline due to the new agreement with Russia to provide one million MT of duty free fuel during 2013, effective within the first quarter of the year."

The **Tajikistan Market Price Report for January 2013**, produced by WFP Tajikistan, notes:

"In December 2012, the price of wheat flour first grade decreased in Dushanbe by 5% on a month-on-month basis but remained 20 percent higher compared to December 2011. Country-wide, prices were up by 26 % than last year.

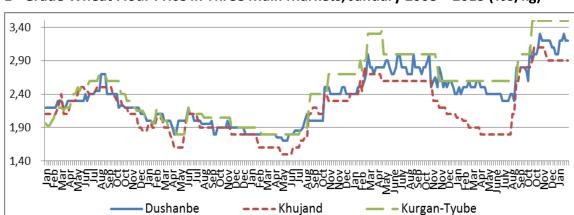
- Fuel price rose slightly (by 1%) country-wide. The negotiations between Tajikistan and Russia on the provision of duty free fuel in 2013 continued. The agreement is expected to be signed in February.
- In 2012 the inflation rate was 6.4% according to the National Bank of Tajikistan (NBT), 2.9 % lower than in 2011." The full WFP report is available at: http://documents.wfp.org/stellent/groups/public/documents/ena/wfp254776.pdf

4.2. Cereal prices 4

1st Grade Wheat Flour

The chart below shows prices for 1st grade wheat flour in Dushanbe, Khujand, and Kurgan-Tyube from January 2008 to late January 2013. As of January, wheat prices were slightly lower in Dushanbe and Khujand markets compared to recent historically high prices, but remain at historically high levels in Kurgan-Tube.

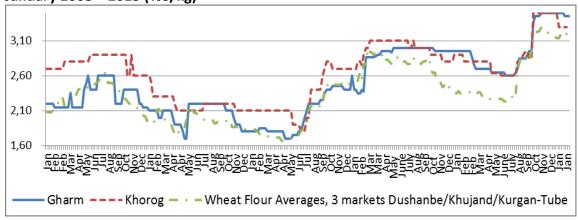
⁴ Food and fuel prices are from WFP Food Security Weekly Market Monitoring, Tajikistan http://untj.org/country_context/coordination_mechanisms/agriculture&food_security/fsms/



1st Grade Wheat Flour Price in Three Main Markets, January 2008 - 2013 (TJS/kg)

The chart below provides prices for 1st grade wheat flour in two large regional markets, Gharm and Khorog, and the average price for Dushanbe, Khujand and Kurgan-Tyube. In January, wheat flour prices in Gharm dropped slightly and in Khorog were stable but close to historically high levels.



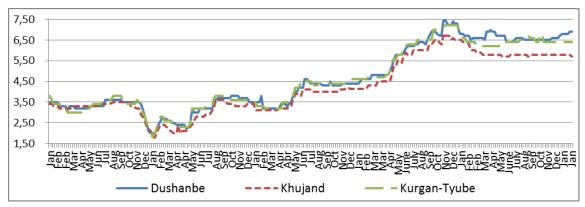


4.3. Fuel prices

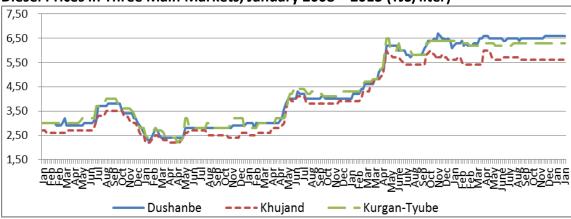
During January, petrol prices increased in Dushanbe, dropped moderately in Khuajnd and remained unchanged in Kurgan-Tybe, compared to the previous month. The diesel prices remained unchanged in all three main markets in Dushanbe, Khujand and Kurgan-Tyube. An expected reduction in Russian export tariffs will reportedly take effect later in 2013.⁵

⁵ See http://news.tj/en/news/russia-expected-deliver-one-mln-tons-oil-products-tajikistan-free-tax-next-year









5. HEALTH

According to the Ministry of Health, an analysis of statistical data of infectious diseases for January 2013 shows a positive epidemiological situation. In particular, in January only one case of typhoid fever was reported, compared to four cases for the same period of 2012.

Other diseases also showed a tendency to lower levels when compared to the same period in 2012. Intestinal infections decreased by 440 cases, viral hepatitis by 1,683 cases, brucellosis by 33 cases, stings and bites 666 cases from to 407. No cases of zoonotic infections such as anthrax or rabies were registered.

During January, 2013, 3 cases of botulism (use of contaminated canned goods at home) were recorded in Yavan and Jomi Districts, Khatlon Province, and in the town of Chkalovsk, Sughd Province, with 39 people infected, but no deaths recorded. During winter people often use canned foods prepared at home leading to a risk of botulism.

Despite the low level of airborne infections to date, the season of upper respiratory illnesses (ARI, influenza and pneumonia) continues. To date, Influenza type A (H1N1) and Influenza type B (H3N2) cases have been registered (see table below). With the start of the second semester in high schools and the crowding factor, an increase in acute respiratory infections is expected in February.

Comparative Epidemiological Report – January to February 2012- 2013									
Disease	2012	2013	Changes (-), (+)						
Typhoid	5	1	- 4						
Acute Intestinal Infections	563	123	- 440						
Viral Hepatitis	1,843	205	- 1,638						
Brucellosis	39	6	- 33						
Anthrax	0	0							
Crimean–Congo hemorrhagic fever (CCHF)	0	0							
Bites, Stings	1073	407	- 666						
Acute Respiratory Infections	29,861	12,687	- 17,174						
Influenza	1,634	613	- 1,021						
Pneumonia	1,088	177	- 911						

6. ECONOMIC TRENDS

6.1. General Trends

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in 2012 continued to increase and totaled 36.1 billion Tajik Somoni (7.6 billion USD), an increase of 7.5% compared to 7.4% for the same period of 2011.

For 2012, the industrial production amounted to 9.8 billion Somoni (2.206 billion USD) and increased by 10.4% compared to the same period in 2011. Industrial production grew due to a recovery in demand in the domestic as well as and international markets, which has a positive impact on all spheres of economic activity, especially in the mining sector. The share of mining in GDP was 12.7%. The share of the manufacturing sector (food, textile, petrochemical and metallurgical industries) amounted to 69.6%. The share of production and distribution of electricity, gas and water supply remained at 17.7%.

The share of agriculture in GDP for 2012 increased by 10.4% compared to the same period in 2011. This share comprised 16.5 billion Somoni (3,459.7 million USD), including crop production – 11.8 billion Somoni (2.48 billion USD), or up 10.6%, and livestock – 4.6 billion Somoni (974.5 million USD), or up 9.7%.

A decrease in investments was observed in 2012. The value of investments from all sources amounted to 4.34 billion Somoni (911.7 million USD), 75.6% of the corresponding period of 2011. Most investments (46.1%) were made in public sector. The private sector accounted for 25.2%, joint ventures - 8.4%, and foreign ownership - 20.3%. A total of 24% in investments were made in the energy sector. Investments in the construction of energy facilities amounted of 1,042.9 million Somoni (219 million USD), including 781.2 million Somoni (164 million USD) from public and domestic private companies (74.9%). A total of 261.7 million Somoni (54.9 million USD) was obtained through foreign loans (25.1%). The share of investments utilized in the construction of energy facilities was 63.8% of the same period in 2011

The main contribution to inflation was the service sector, where rates increased 9.6% compared to December 2011. Prices of non-food items increased by 6.7%, and food

products, which share over 60% of consumer expenditure, increased by 5.6%. For the current year, the consumer inflation rate was 6.6% in Russia, 6% Kazakhstan, and 7.5% in Kyrgyzstan.

According to the Ministry of Finance, for the first 11 months of 2012, the total state budget amounted to 8.314 billion Somoni (1.746 billion USD), or 25.5% of GDP. Income tax revenues amounted to 78.2%, non-tax revenues were 7%, and the remaining 14.8% were investment funds included in the budget revenues. State budget expenditures on December 1, 2012 reached 7,555 billion Somoni (1.586 billion USD). When compared to the same period in 2011, the budget increased by 217.1 million Somoni (45.6 million USD).

Credit provision in 2012 had a tendency of stable growth. Total credits for 2012 totaled 5.4 billion Somoni (1.1 billion USD), a 13.0% increase from the previous year. The amount of credit provided in different sectors of economy reached 7.0 billion Somoni (1.5 billion USD), an increase from the previous year of 8%. Of the total amount loaned, 20.2% was provided for foreign trade, 17.0% for industry, 17.1%, for agriculture, 6.0% for financial intermediation, 8.4% for construction, 12.8% for the consumer sector, and 18,5% for other sectors.

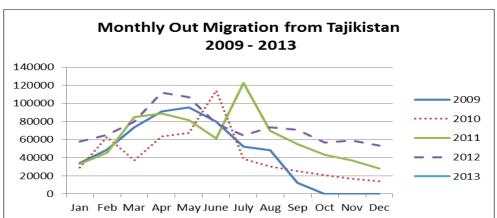
Microcredit throughout the country, and especially in remote mountainous areas, is a major focus of support for small and medium businesses and for reducing poverty. As of December 31, 2012 the level of microcredit provided was 3.1 billion Somoni (651 million USD), a 30.6% increased compared to the same period of last year. A total of 634.9 million Somoni (133 million USD) in credit was provided in the remote mountain regions of the country, a 22.7% increase over last year.

In 2012, the foreign trade turnover totaled 5.138 billion USD, 15.1% more than for 2011. Exports reached 1.359 billion USD and imports were 3.778 billion USD. The trade balance was a negative 2.419 billion USD.

6.2. Labor Migration

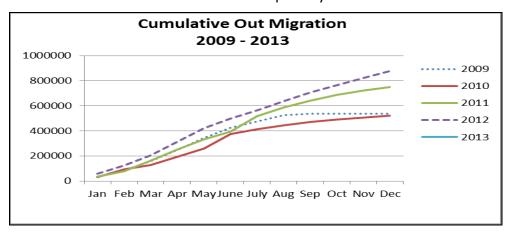
The Migration Service of Tajikistan reports that in January, 2013 a total of 68,675 persons left Tajikistan and 60,143 persons returned.

Labor migration from	(person)		Labor migration from Tajikistan as per January 2013 (person) ("-"indicate absences of information)				
Point of Departure		Left		Returned			
and Return	Total Gender		Total Gender				
	lotai	Male	Female		Male	Female	
Dushanbe and DRD	18,978	13,545	5,433	20,308	15,406	4,902	
Sughd Oblast	22,166	18,481	3,685	12,686	10,511	2,175	
Khatlon Oblast	23,031	20,145	2,886	23,287	20,313	2,974	
GBAO	4,500	3,463	1,037	3,862	2,923	939	
Dusti Border Pint,	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Tursunzade							
Total	68,675	55,634	13,041	60,143	49,153	10,990	



The **Monthly Out Migration 2009 – 2013** chart below provides a year-to-year summary of annual out migration numbers from 2009 to 2013.

The chart **Cumulative Out Migration 2009-2013**, below, indicates that total out migration in 2012 has occurred at a rate above the past 3 years.



6.3. Employment

According to the State Agency of Social Protection, Employment and Migration, in January 2013, 9,023 Tajik citizens applied to the Agency for assistance. Of this number, 4,838 individuals registered as seeking employment, and 2,955 were officially registered as unemployed. During the first month of the year, 1,896 people were provided with jobs with the assistance of employment services, or 21.0% of all people who applied. The main reasons of the low number of employed individuals is that a majority of unemployed do not have specific technical skills, or have lost skills due to long interruptions in work, as well as the low salaries being offered.

During the first month of 2013, 891 unemployed individuals received unemployment benefits totaling 22,5726 Somoni. According to the State Agency of Social Protection, Employment and Migration, as of 1 February 2013, a total of 75,123 individuals were seeking employment. Of this number, 52,625 individuals have the status of unemployed. In January 2013, 394 individuals were sent for vocational training, 116 were provided with paid social work and 137 individuals were provided with special loans to start private business.

According to the State Agency for Social Protection, Employment and Migration during January 2013, 6,104 new jobs were created, 12% less than in the same period last year.

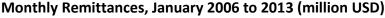
6.4. Exchange rate

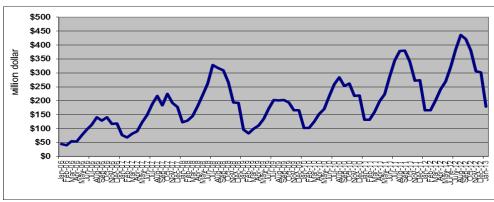
The chart below provides both the official National Bank of Tajikistan's (NBT) exchange rate and unofficial (market) exchange rate monitored weekly by WFP. The NBT rate as of 1 February 2013 was 4.76 Tajik Somoni to one USD. The WFP reported an average market exchange rate for five markets in Tajikistan on 1 February 2013 was 4.85 Tajik Somoni per one USD.

Exchange Rate of Tajik Somoni against US Dollar, June 2007 - January 2013 5,00 4,80 national currency 4,60 4.40 4,20 4,00 3,80 3,60 3,40 3,20 Average market exchange rate of TJS against USD (WFP) Official exchange rate of TJS against USD (NBT)

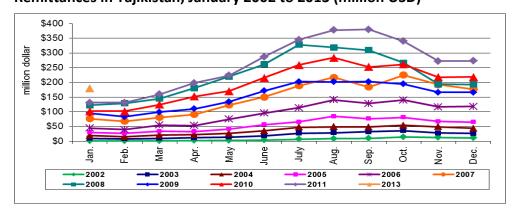
6.5. Remittances

Unofficially reported remittances in January 2013 totaled 178.8 million USD, 8% higher than for the same period in 2012. Remittances are expected to increase as seasonal labor migration increases.





Remittances in Tajikistan, January 2002 to 2013 (million USD)





Annex A- Weather Forecast for February, 2013

Khatlon Province and Lower Elevations of Direct Rule Districts (DRD)

Above average temperatures are expected to prevail for the whole month. Monthly average temperatures are expected to be 2°C above the long term averages at lower elevations, 0.5 to 1.5° C above the long-term average in the foothills. Expected temperatures will range from 5 to 9°C at lower elevations and from 1 to 3°C in the foothills during the month. The warmest temperatures are expected in the first ten days of the month, when temperatures will be up to 18 to 22° C, and daily average temperatures will be 5 to 10° C above long term averages. At the end of the second ten days of the month a short cold wave is expected, with temperatures falling to 2 to 7° C during the day, and to 2° C at night.

For the rest of the month, maximum temperatures will range from 11 to 16° C, and minimal temperatures from 0° C to 7° C. In the foothills during the expected period of cold weather, temperatures at night may fall to - 10° C, while daytime temperatures will be - 2° C.

Frequent precipitation (rain, sleet, snow) is expected, and will be higher in the second half of the month. Monthly precipitation is expected to be above average: At lower elevations the average is 28 to 100 mm and in the foothills the average is 100 to 150 mm. Occasional western wind ranging from 65-83 km/h can be expected and fog will be prevalent.

Sughd Province

Monthly average temperatures are expected to be above long-term averages. Averages are, at lower elevations and in the foothills, from 1.5 to 2.5° C, and at higher elevations 0.5 to 1.5° C. Temperatures at lower elevations during the month will range from 4 to 6° C, in the foothills from 1 to 3° C, and at higher elevations from 1 to -6° C. Apart from the relatively warm weather, the short cold waves can be expected in the middle and end of month, with temperatures falling to 2 to 5° C during the day, and down to -4° C at night. During these periods, night temperatures can fall to -8° C in the foothills.

The warmest temperatures are expected in the first half of the month, ranging from 12 to 16° C during the day, with daily average temperatures averaging 5 to 10° C. On the remaining days, daytime temperatures will range within 6 to 11° C. At night, temperatures will range from -2° C to $+3^{\circ}$ C. At higher elevations, there will be interchanging periods of warm and cold weather. During the day, temperatures will average from 4° C to 14° C. At night, temperatures will range from 0° C to -16° C.

Frequent precipitation is expected. At lower elevations, average precipitation is 17 to 38 mm. At higher elevations, averages are 9 to 20 mm. On some days the wind will reach 61 to 79 km/h. Fog is expected.

Higher Elevations of DRD and Western Regions of Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Oblast

Monthly average temperatures are expected to be 1 to 2° C above the long-term average at the higher elevations of DRD and range from 0 to -5° C. It is expected that Western GBAO will be warmer than average for most of the month. Daytime temperatures will range from 0 to 5° C. Temperatures at night will range from -2 to -13 $^{\circ}$ C. The coldest weather is expected to be during the first 10 days of the month. At higher elevations of the DRD, there will be variable periods of warmer and colder weather. Temperatures will be from 5° C to -7° C during the day and range from 1° C to -18° C at night.

Precipitation is expected to be above long term averages. At higher elevations of DRD, average precipitation ranges from 37 to 140 mm. In in Western GBAO, precipitation averages from 9 to 50 mm. Wind can be expected to range from 61 to 79 km/h. Fog can be expected.

Eastern Regions of GBAO

Monthly average temperatures are expected to be 3 to 4°C above the long-term averages, and range from -10 to -15°, and in Bulunkul (Murgab Districts) -18°C. It is expected that daytime temperatures will range from 0°C to -13°C, with nighttime temperatures ranging from -10 to -30°C. In Bulunkul, temperatures can be expected to drop to -40°C.

Monthly precipitation is expected to be above the long-term averages, which range from 4 to 15 mm.

The aim of the Tajikistan Monthly Monitoring and Early Warning (MEW) Reports is to provide regular information and succinct analysis on the evolution of natural, economic, food-related, energy-related and other risk factors in Tajikistan. Data and information in this report are provided by different sources and compiled by the MEW Centre Group of Experts from Government organizations and agencies, and UN Agencies in Tajikistan. The members of the Working group of MEW centre include the following organizations and agencies:

Ministry of Economic Development and Trade, RT

Ministry of Energy and Industry, RT

Ministry of Labour and Social protection of population, RT

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Ministry of Interior, RT

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State Agency for Hydrometeorology

State Agency of Social Protection, Employment and Migration State

Institute of Geology, Seismic construction and seismology, Academy of Sciences, RT

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