

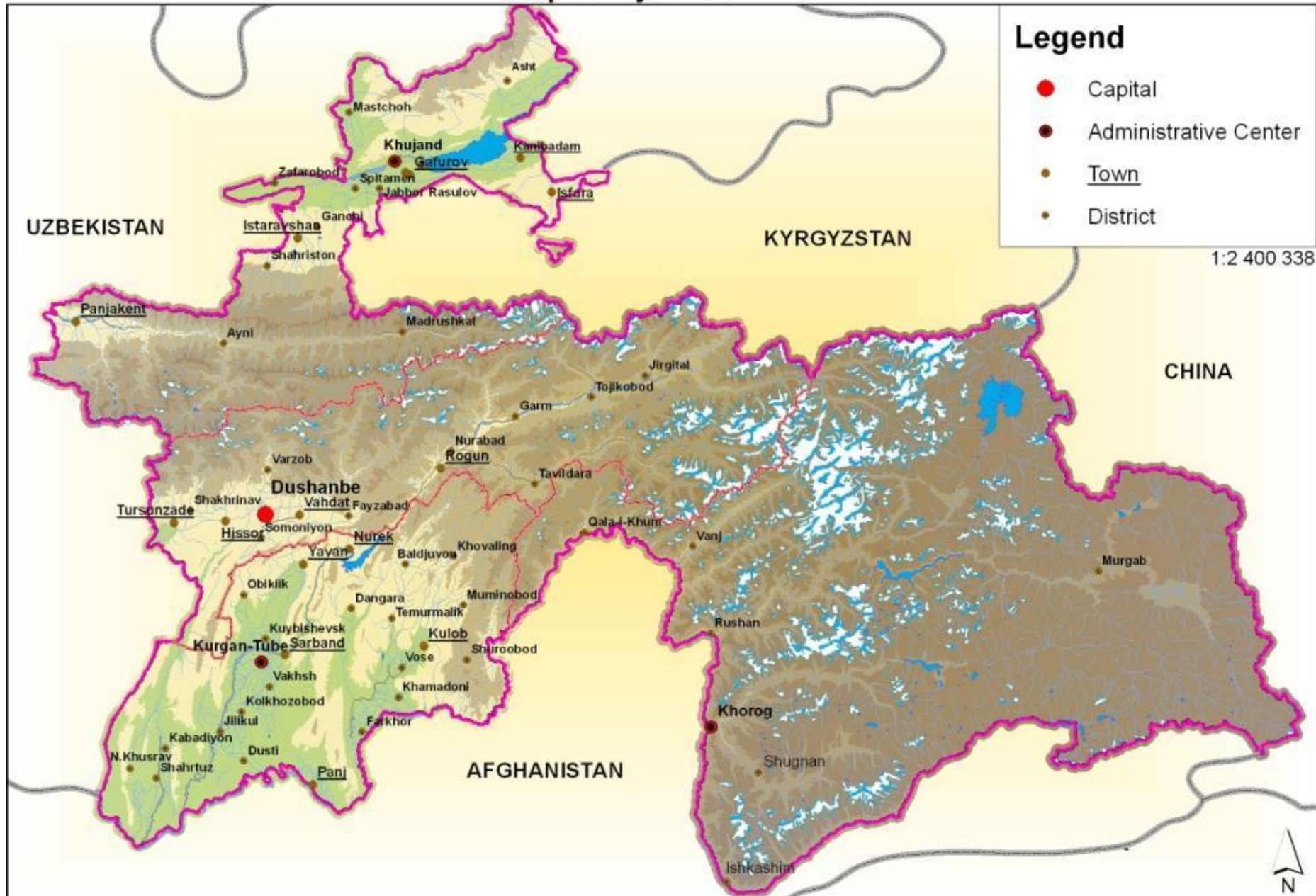
Monitoring & Early Warning in Tajikistan

MONTHLY REPORT

MARCH 2013



Map of Tajikistan



GENERAL TRENDS

NATURAL HAZARDS

In March there is a high likelihood of freezing temperatures and avalanches, with mudflow and floods likely at the lower elevations of the country.

WEATHER

In March, temperatures will be above long term averages. Precipitation is expected to be above or within long term averages nationwide.

ENERGY SECURITY

Electricity production in February 2013 decreased to 5.1% compared to January, 2013. The water level in Nurek reservoir is 5.74 m above the same period of last year. Restrictions on electricity supplies were lifted on 7 March 2013.

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

Type A influenza H1N1 and Type B influenza H3N2 continue to spread. In February, the levels other significant reportable diseases were lower than the same period in 2012.

MIGRATION AND REMITTANCES

Cumulative out migration levels were higher in February 2013 than the same period last year. Remittances are running at higher levels in February 2013 (up 9%) than for February 2012.

ECONOMY

January 2013, GDP totaled 2,063.7 million Tajik Somoni (433.2 million USD). Industrial production increased by 5% compared to the same period in 2012. Consumer price inflation is 0.5%, compared to December 2012. Total bank credits as of 1 January 2013 totaled 5.5 billion Tajik Somoni (1.16 billion USD). The amount of credit provided in different sectors of economy reached 571.9 million Somoni (120 million USD). The January 2013 foreign trade turnover equaled 428.2 million USD, 7.4% more than the same period in 2012. Exports totaled 126.4 million USD and imports 301.8 million USD. Due to a lack of piped natural gas, Tajcement is not currently producing cement. However, TALCO is using “synthetic” gas, made from coal, to meet their gas requirements.

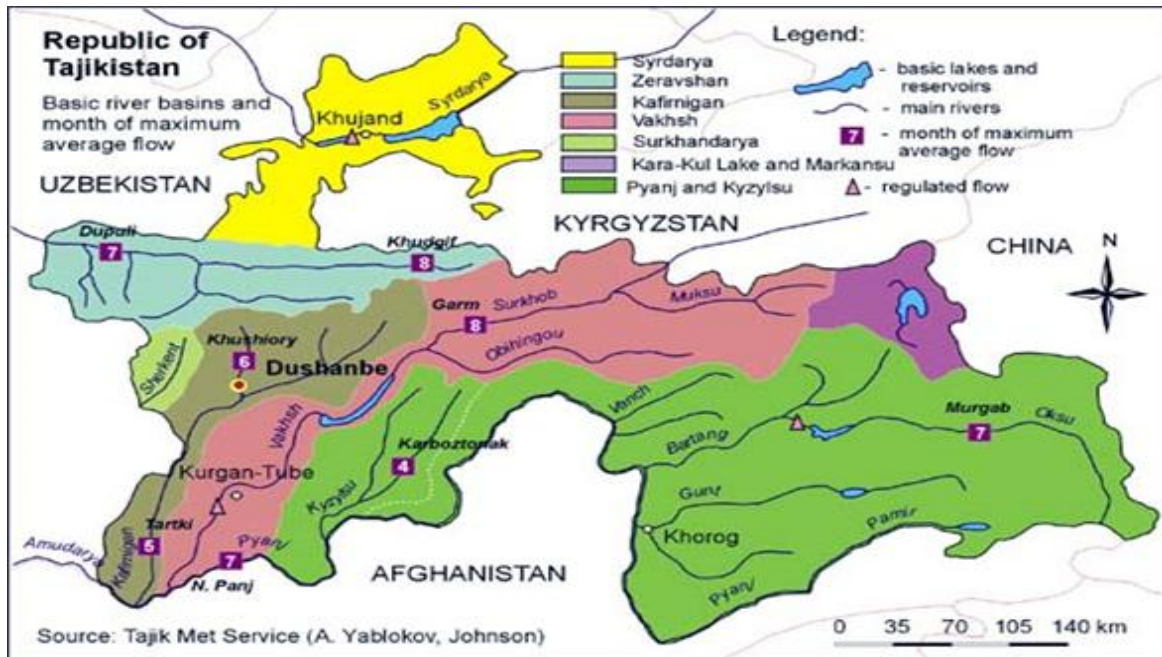
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1. HAZARDOUS EVENTS

1.1. Possible Events in March 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 March is the beginning of the vegetation period and is characterized by unstable weather, precipitation and frequent fluctuation in temperatures.



In March, possible emergencies will be largely due to floods, flash floods, freezing weather and avalanches, as well as hail and high wind. Mudflows are possible at lower elevations of Khatlon Province and the Direct Rule Districts (DRD) and flooding in the Yakhsu and Kizilsu Rivers, and downstream areas of the Kafirnigan River).

Type of Hazard	Historical Data on Hazard Events in March														Total
	2000-2013														
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	
Flooding		1													1
Avalanches		3		11	3	14	5		4	4	2	1	7	1	55
Severe Freezing			1	1				1	1				2		6
Rainfall			1	1	2	1		3		1	3		2		14
Snowfall		2	1			10	1		3	1	2		7		27
Strong Winds		4	7	5			1	2					1		20
Earthquake		1	2	1			1	7	1		2	1			16

Landslides		1	1	1	1	1	4	2	1				1	14	
River flooding	1	1				1					1			4	
Total	2	13	13	20	6	27	12	15	12	6	11	2	19	2	156

1.2. Hazard Events in February 2013

CoES reported two significant hazard events in February 2013:

- On 2 February at 2043 an avalanche blocked the road between 70 km and 72 km Dushanbe – Khujand. No casualties reported.
- On 24 February at 1715 a rock fall killed one person in Rog village of Mastchoh District.

For the latest detailed information see the online disaster overview situation report for February 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 March 2013.¹

The Tajik Hydrometeorology Center forecasts that the average temperatures in March 2013 will be 2 to 3°C above long-term averages countrywide.

Monthly precipitation is expected to be above the long term averages in the eastern part of Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Oblast (GBAO) and below or within the long-term averages in Khatlon Province, Direct Rule Districts (DRD), Sughd Province and in western part of GBAO during a month. See **Annex A** for a more detailed forecast for March 2013.

Average Expected Precipitation – March 2013		
Region		Precipitation
Khatlon Province	Lower elevations	18-66 mm
	Foothills	77-92 mm
Sughd Province	Lower elevations	15-18 mm
	Higher elevations	10-22 mm
DRD	Lower elevations	18-66 mm
	Higher elevations	37-72 mm
GBAO	West	26-52 mm
	East	4-12 mm

2.2. Weather Summary for February 2013

In February, Tajikistan experienced warmer than normal weather and precipitation. Average monthly temperatures for all the districts were 2 to 3°C above the long-term average. Average temperatures were:

- At lower elevations and in the foothills, 5 to 9°C,
- At higher elevations, - 3 to - 5°C,
- At higher elevations of GBAO, - 10 to -12°C.

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.

During the month the maximum temperatures at the lower elevations of Khatlon Province and DRD were from 15 to 18°C. At the higher elevations the temperatures were up to 3 to 8°C, with average daily temperatures were from 5 to 7°C above the long term averages.

Fog was observed at the lower elevations, in the foothills and in the passes during the month. Wind speeds reached 15 to 22 km/h.

Precipitation of various intensities occurred in most parts of the country during 10 to 15 days of the month. The most heavy precipitation was observed on February 2, when a total of 31 mm fell during one day in Dushanbe.

Monthly precipitation in most parts of the country was above the long term averages, except at higher elevations, where the precipitation was below the long term averages.

Actual Monthly Precipitation	
Region	% of average
Sughd Province	93-158 %
Khatlon Province	50-137%
DRD	105-161%
Western GBAO	68-83%
Eastern GBAO	50-102%

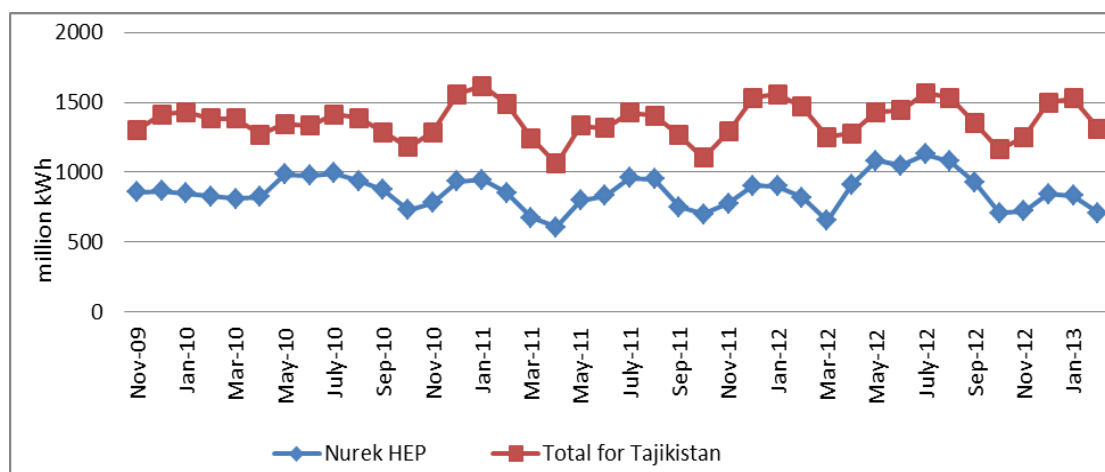
3. ENERGY

3.1. Electricity Production ²

Barki Tojik reported that total electricity generation in February was 1,311 million kilowatt-hours (kWh), or an average of 46.8 million kWh per day. Electricity production in February decreased by 5.1% (49.3 million kWh) compared to January 2013.

Electricity production in February 2013 was 158 million kWh less than in February 2012 (See Section 3.5, below.). (Contact the MEWS Center at earlywarning.tj@undp.org for historical data on electricity production).

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



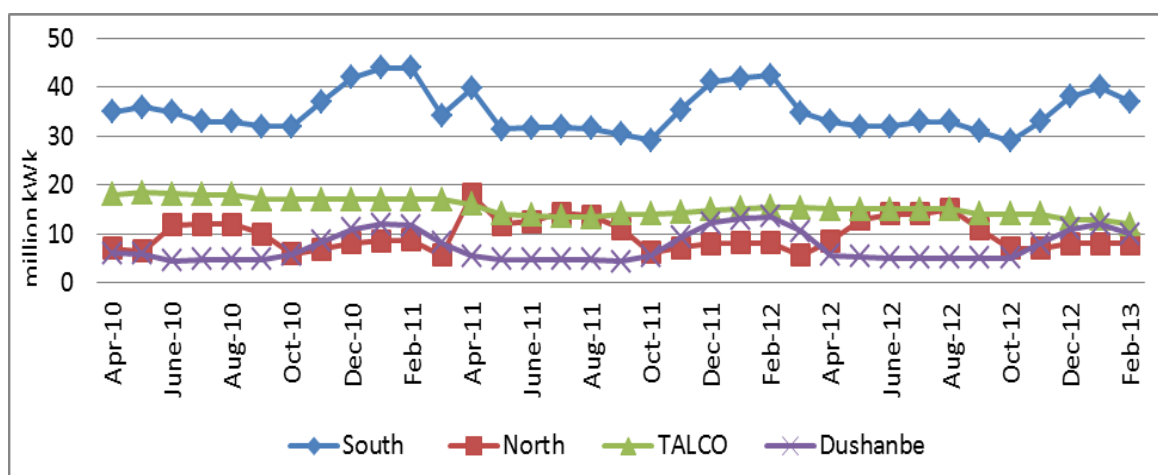
² Data on electricity generation and consumption is provided by the Monitoring and Early Warning System (MEWS) GoT expert from Barki Tojik.

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 February was 1,267 million kWh, 5.6% more than in January 2013. In February, 2013 electricity consumption was 201 million kWh less than in February 2012 (1,468 million kWh), which is due to the lower consumption of TALCO. (Contact the MEWS Center at earlywarning.tj@undp.org for historical data on electricity consumption).

Due to the favorable condition, from 11 February, an additional 3 hours of daily power supplies were provided to areas affected by rationing, with electricity available from 0500 to 0900 and from 1700 to 2200. From 7 March, a Government decree lifted all electricity restrictions for all parts of the country.

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



3.3. Natural Gas

Tajikistan 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 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.

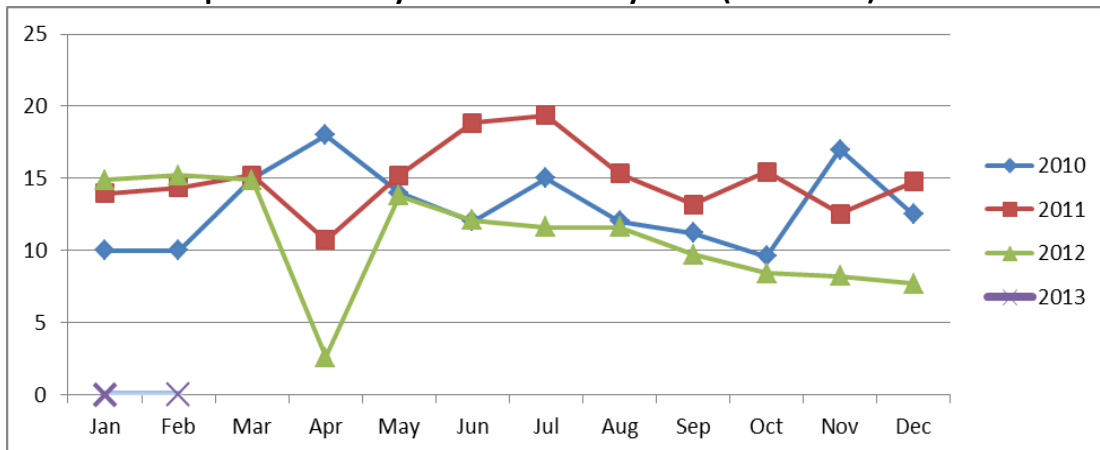
TALCO is currently using synthetic gas produced from coal. Tajcement has stopped using piped gas and is not producing cement at present.

Tajikistan also imports liquefied gas by tanker and rail car. For the first two months of 2013, 9,706 tons of liquefied gas has been imported from Kazakhstan. Due to high petrol prices, more than 40% of country transportation uses liquefied gas.

Natural Gas Imports by Tajikistan, 2004 – 2013

Year	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	February 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 February 2013 (million m³)



3.4. Coal

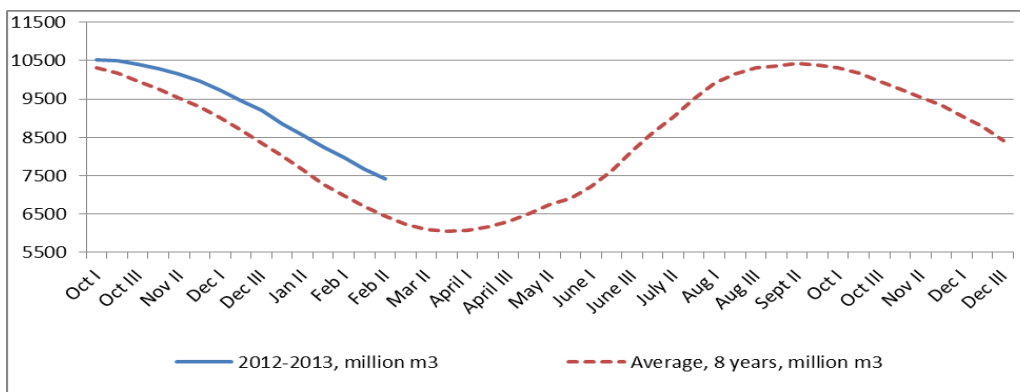
According to the Ministry of Energy and Industry, 18,319 tons of coal was produced in February 2013, 3,289 tons more than in January 2013, and 11,917 tons more than in the same period of February 2012. Coal production has increased due to a shift from more expensive natural gas and electricity to more economical coal.

From 2007 up to date 154 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 February 2013 compared to average volume over the last eight years (2004 to 2012). In late February, 2013 the water level in Nurek HEP was 874.65 meters above sea level, 10.1 meters lower when compared to January, 2013 and 17.65 m above the “dead level” (857 m)³. The water volume in reservoir in the current year is 5.74 m more compared to the same period of last year.

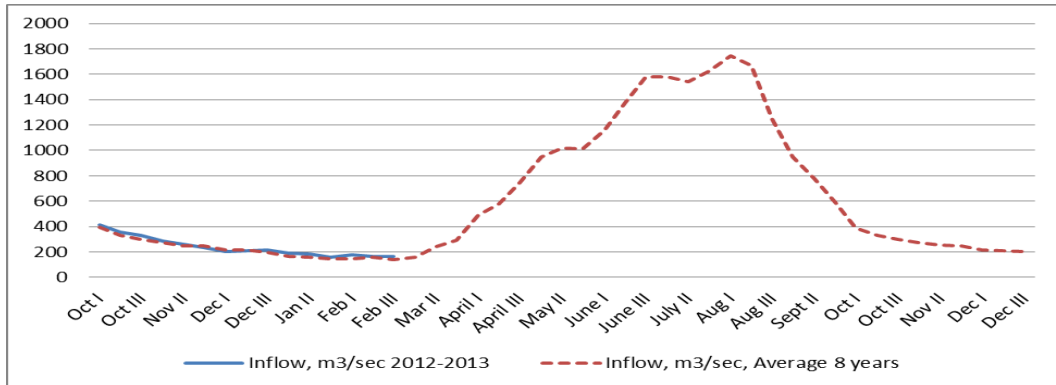
Water Volume – Nurek HEP (million m³)



³ Data obtained from Barki Tojik

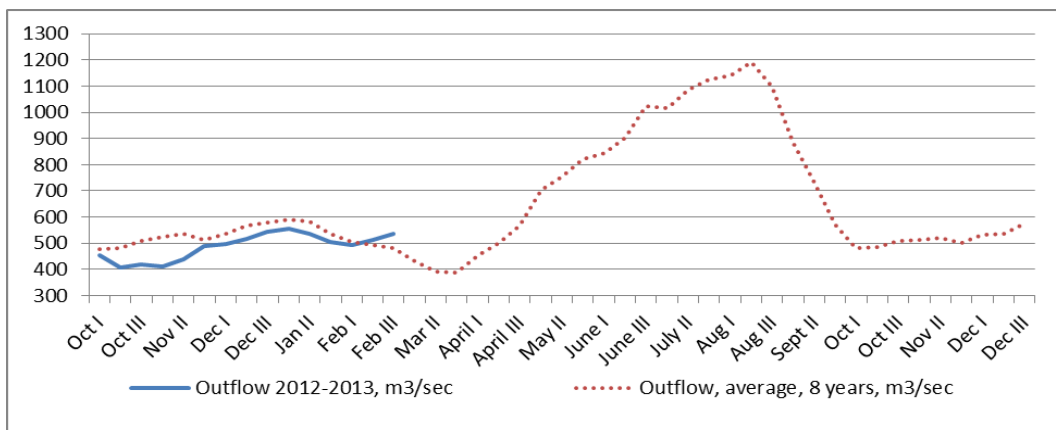
The **Water Inflow – Nurek HEP** chart below shows water inflows into the Nurek HEP. At the end of February 2013, the water inflow was 162 m³/sec, 21.8 m³/sec above the 2004-2012 average of 140.2 m³/sec.

Water Inflow – Nurek HEP (million m³)



As indicated in the **Water Outflow – Nurek HEP** chart below, releases from Nurek HEP in the end of February averaged 538 m³/sec, more than the eight-year average (482.5 m³/sec).

Water Outflow – Nurek HEP (m³/sec)



4. FOOD SECURITY

4.1. Summary of Reports

According to the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade of Republic of Tajikistan (MEDT) the main items imported to the country are grain and wheat flour. During January, 2013 63.6 thousand tons of grain and 24 thousand tons of wheat flour were imported, 35.1% less grain and 64.5 % less wheat flour when compared to last year.

During March 2013 the prices for wheat flour did not change in comparison to prices in February. As of 1 March 2013, in Dushanbe markets, one sack of 50 kg first grade domestically produced wheat flour cost 145.3 Somoni (30.5 USD), second grade of wheat flour cost 140.8 Somoni (29.3 USD). First grade of wheat flour imported from Kazakhstan cost 151.3 Somoni (31.8 USD) and 138.8 Somoni (29.2 USD) for second grade of wheat flour. A comparison with prices for last year reveals that the price of local produced wheat flour went up 29% and price of imported wheat flour from Kazakhstan was 30% higher.

In January 2013 the average price of import of petroleum products increased up to 4.8% and comprised 1.180 USD per ton countrywide. For January 2013, 30,600 tons of petroleum products imported, 18.2% less than the same period of last year. Diesel fuel imports totaled 6,900 tons at a price of 1.101 USD per ton and gasoline imports totaled 9,000 tons of at a price of 1.111 USD per ton.

The February Famine Early Warning System Network (FewsNet) PRICE WATCH: January 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 were 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 March 2013, produced by WFP Tajikistan, notes:

“In February 2013, the prices of wheat flour first grade increased in Dushanbe by 7 percent on a month-month basis and remained 30 percent higher than February 2012. Country-wide, prices were up by 29 percent compared to the same period last year.

- The agreement between Tajikistan and Russia on the provision of 1 million tons of duty free fuel in 2013 was signed on 7 February 2013.
- The Government continued to provide markets in GBAO with subsidized staple food from national reserves.”

The inflation rate in February was 0.5 percent according the National Bank of Tajikistan.” The full WFP report is available at:

<http://documents.wfp.org/stellent/groups/public/documents/ena/wfp254776.pdf>

The February monthly bulletin “Food security and Agriculture Highlights” prepared by FAO, reports: “In January 2013 the food prices in Tajikistan significantly increased compared to January 2012: wheat flour first grade by 31,5%, milk by 25,5%, potatoes by 16,9%, live fish by 14,1%, beef by 13,1%, dairy products by 9,4%, mutton by 9.4%, meat

products by 7,8%, poultry meat by 7,1%, tea by 5,9%, white bread flour 1st grade by 2,4%. Along with this, the prices fell for buckwheat by 42,4%, onion by 18,7%, cotton oil by 17,6%, sugar by 13,9%, cabbage by 9,2%, eggs by 6,3%, rice by 4,9% and carrots by 1,1 %.". For more detailed information please contact FAO Tajikistan at: Malika.Budanaeva@fao.org

The February "GIEWS Country Brief – Tajikistan" highlights:

- Early forecast for winter cereal production is positive
- The aggregate cereal production in 2012 is close to last year's level
- The country depends heavily on cereal imports that remain at a high level in 2012/13 marketing year
- High food prices are affecting the food security of vulnerable populations

The full FAO report is available at:

<http://www.fao.org/giews/countrybrief/country/TJK/pdf/TJK.pdf>

IPC Tajikistan: Food Security Classification Overview - January 2013 reports:

"Overall, the food security situation was analyzed in 13 livelihood zones for September–December 2012. About 870,277 people in 12 livelihood zones are classified in Phase 3- Crisis. Another 2,381,754 people are classified in Phase 2- Stressed and 2,055,402 in Phase 1- Minimal.

In general, the food security status of analyzed zones has relatively improved in the reporting months compared to the previous year thanks to increased remittances received, good rainfall and good cereal production reaching 1.2 million tons, by end 2012,... . The availability of water and pasture has also increased in some parts of the country, leading to improvement in livestock productivity and value. Remittances also played a major role in many household' livelihoods and became the main source of income to meet their daily basic needs. The inflow of remittances in 2012 peaked at more than 3.5 billion USD, surpassing the 2011 record of 3.0 billion USD and accounting for almost half of the country's GDP.

Despite above facts that led to recovery from last year's prolong and extreme cold and in improvement of overall situation, the food insecure are not able to benefit from it due to low purchasing capacity, fewer harvest and low livestock asset holding. Several shocks, particularly high food fuel prices, lack of drinking and irrigation water in many areas, unavailability or high cost of fertilizers, and animal diseases, have contributed to acute food insecurity (stressed or crisis) for thousands of people. Higher wheat prices fuelled by the 2012 below normal harvest in Kazakhstan and high fuel prices further exacerbated the escalating situation, making the access difficult to the poorest of households who rely on the market for their larger proportion of food needs during lean period. Rural households with depleted food reserves and inadequate food consumption (quantity and quality), without other source of income rather than remittances and those residing in remote areas with difficult access to markets are extremely vulnerable during this time. The urban poor who have limited sources of income are also suffering for their basic needs due to poor purchasing power.

Physical utilization of food is also inadequate in part of analyzed areas as evidence shows low access to drinking water, precarious household health environment, and poor feeding practices. Limitation in power supply and high costs of coal and firewood are greatly

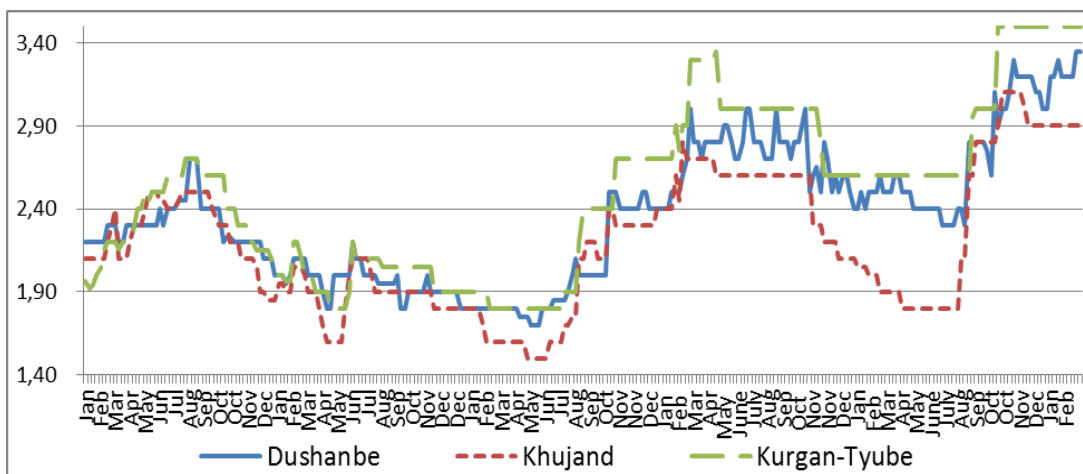
contributing to the condition.” For further information contact IPC Technical Working Group at: Tajikistan.FoodSecurityCluster@wfp.org.

4.2. Cereal prices ⁴

1st Grade Wheat Flour

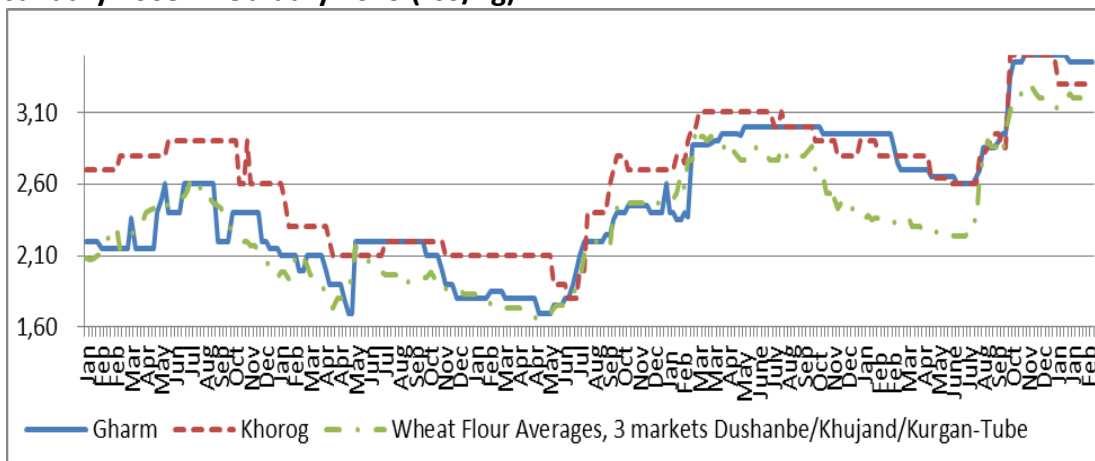
The chart below shows prices for 1st grade wheat flour in Dushanbe, Khujand, and Kurgan-Tyube from January 2008 to late February 2013. As of February, wheat prices increased in Dushanbe markets and were slightly lower in Khujand markets compared to recent historically high prices, but remain at historically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

1st Grade Wheat Flour Price in Three Main Markets, January 2008 – February 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 February wheat flour prices in Gharm and Khorog remained at near historic high levels.

1st Grade Wheat Flour Prices in Garm, Khorog, and average of Three Main Markets, January 2008 – February 2013 (TJS/kg)

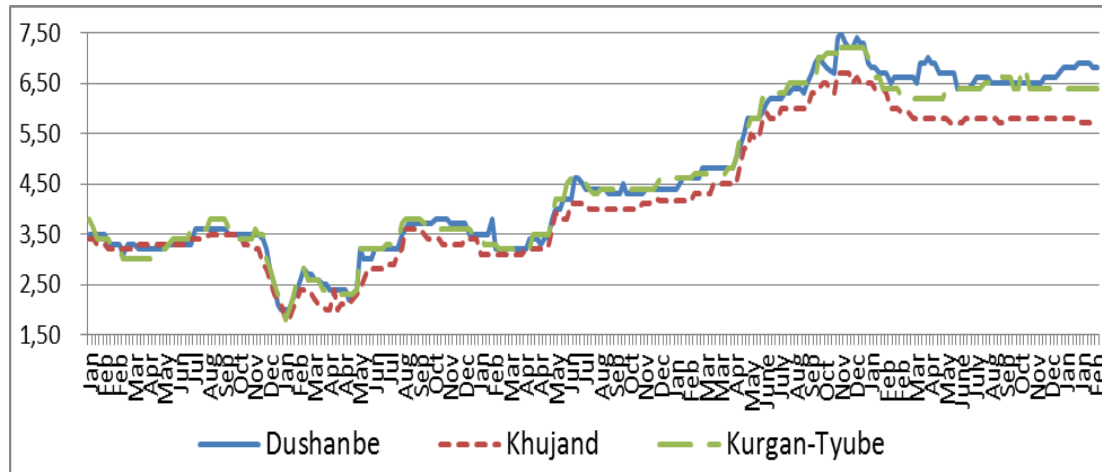


⁴ Food and fuel prices are from WFP Food Security Weekly Market Monitoring, Tajikistan http://untj.org/country_context/coordination_mechanisms/agriculture&food_security/fsms/

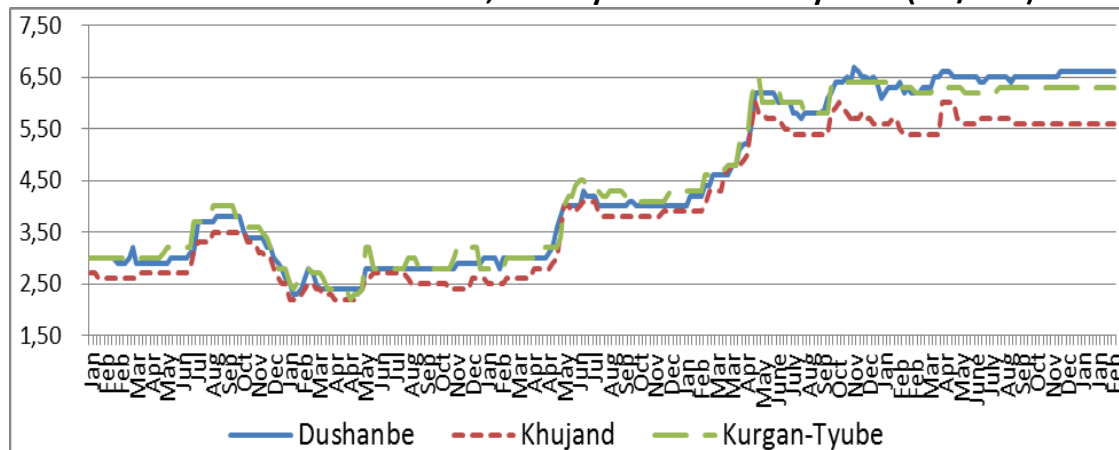
4.3. Fuel prices

During February, petrol and diesel prices decreased in Dushanbe, and remained unchanged in Khuajnd and Kurgan-Tybe, compared to the previous month. An expected reduction in Russian export tariffs will reportedly take effect later in 2013.⁵

Petrol Prices in Three Main Markets, January 2008 – February 2013 (TJS/liter)



Diesel Prices in Three Main Markets, January 2008 – February 2013 (TJS/liter)



5. HEALTH

According to the Ministry of Health, by 1 March 2012 only one case of typhoid was registered, which is 4 cases less when compared to the same period in 2012. During the same period, 370 cases of hepatitis virus were registered, which is 1,683 cases less when compared to the same period of last year. Apart from hepatitis, there are cases of bites and saliva contact with wild and domestic animals, however the cases of bites are decreasing in comparison to last year.

Despite the low level of reported airborne infections to date, the season of upper respiratory diseases (ARI, SARS, influenza, pneumonia) continues. Currently, along with Type A influenza H1N1 and Type B influenza H3N2 continue to spread. According to an

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

evaluation of the epidemiological situation, the ARI and influenza season will end earlier than last year.

It is important to note that there is a possibility of increase of risk of food poisoning due to consumption of homemade conserved products (vegetables) because last year two cases of food poisoning (poisoning with botulinum toxin) were registered, affecting 13 people.

Concerning other infectious diseases epidemiological situations in the country is considered as stable.

Comparative Epidemiological Report – January to February 2012- 2013				
#	Disease	2012	2013	Changes (-), (+)
1.	Typhoid	5	1	- 4
2.	Acute Intestinal Infections	740	280	- 460
3.	Viral Hepatitis	2,053	370	- 1,683
4.	Brucellosis	47	16	- 31
5.	Anthrax	0	0	0
6.	Crimean–Congo hemorrhagic fever (CCHF)	1,280	576	- 704
7.	Bites, Stings	0	0	=
8.	Acute Respiratory Infections	32,842	2,0370	- 12,472
9.	Influenza	2,386	775	- 1,611
10.	Pneumonia	1,365	249	- 1,116

6. ECONOMIC TRENDS

6.1. General Trends

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in January 2013 continued to increase and totalled 2,063.7 million Somoni (433.2 million USD) an increase of 7.1% compared to 7.2% for the same period in 2012.

In January industrial enterprises in the Republic produced goods worth 819.4 million Somoni (172 million USD) a growth rate of 105% when compared to January last year. Industrial production growth is increasing due to demand in the domestic and external markets, especially in the mining sector. The share of mining products was 10.2% of overall domestic production. The share of the manufacturing sector in overall production (food, textile, petrochemical and steel industries) was 65.8%. The share of production and distribution of electricity, gas and water supply remained at 24%.

The share of agriculture in GDP for January 2013 increased by 6.3% compared to January last year and amounted to 267.6 million Somoni (56.2 million USD), including crop production - 1.3 million Somoni (0.3 million USD), or 14.9%, and livestock - 266.3 million Somoni (55.9 million USD), or 5.3%.

There was a decrease in investments. During January 2013, investments from all sources totalled 168.3 million Somoni (35.3 million USD), 76.8% of the corresponding period of 2012. Most investments (37.4%) were by the government. The private sector accounted for 33.9% of investments, joint ventures for 8.5%, and foreign ownership for 20.2%. The energy sector accounted for 18.8% of all investments. A total of 31.7 million Somoni (6.6 million USD), has been invested in the construction of energy facilities, including 31.1 million Somoni (6.5 million USD) by the Government and domestic private companies (98.1 %). A total of 0.6 million Somoni (0.1 million USD) was received through foreign loans (1.9%). The share of investments utilized in the construction of energy facilities increased 54% when compared to the same period in 2012.

For January 2013, when compared to December 2012, the inflation rate in the consumer sector was 0.5%. The main contributions to the inflation rate were services, which increased by 1.7%, and food products, which increased by 0.4%. For January 2013, when compared with December 2012, inflation in the consumer sector was as follows: 1% in Russia, 0.9% in Kazakhstan, and 0.8% in Kyrgyzstan.

According to the Ministry of Finance the state budget for 2012 totalled 9,596.2 million Somoni (2,014.9 million USD), or 26.5% of GDP. Income from tax revenues in total budget totalled 73.5%, non-tax revenue totalled 11.6% with the remaining 14.9% from investment funds included in the budget revenues. State budget expenditures for 2012 were 9,070.9 million Somoni (1,904.6 million USD) and compared with the same period in 2011 increased by 791.6 million Somoni (166.2 million USD).

The total value of residual credits on January 1, 2013 totaled 5.5 billion Somoni (1,156 million USD), an increase of 13.5% when compared with the same date in 2012. The volume of loans provided to different economic sectors for January 2013 amounted to 571.9 million Somoni (120 million USD), an increase of 55.3% when compared to the same period of last year. The value of repaid loans reached 489.3 million Somoni (103 million USD), or 85.6% of the total loans volume issued during this period.

In January 2013, the value of microcredits provided totaled 330.0 million Somoni (69 million USD), an increase of 56.1% when compared to the same period of last year. In the remote mountain regions of the country a total of 63.0 million Somoni (13 million USD) in credits have been issued, an increase of more than 53.4% when compared to the same period last year.

In January 2013, foreign trade turnover totaled 428.2 million USD, a 7.4% increase over the same period in 2012. Exports of goods totaled 126.4 million USD and imports reached 301.8 million USD. The trade balance was negative and totaled 175.3 million USD.

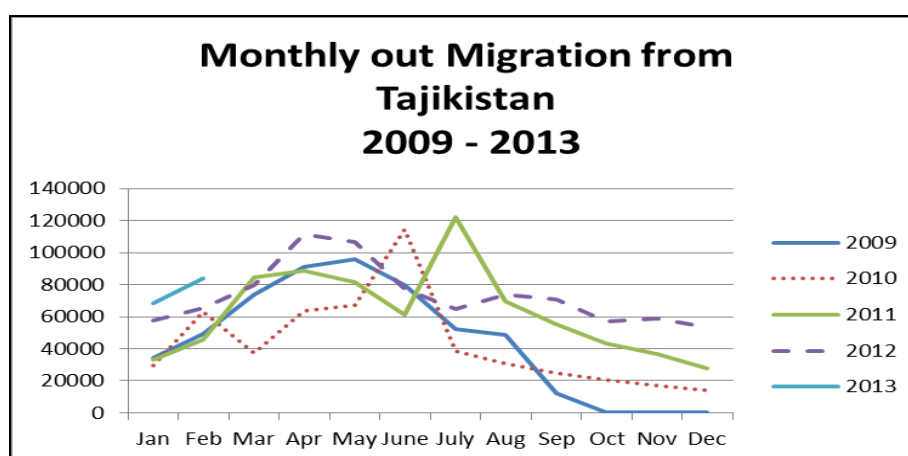
6.2. Labor Migration

The Migration Service of Tajikistan reports that in the first two months of 2013 a total of 152,871 persons left Tajikistan, which is 24% more than in the same period of last year, and 100,030 persons returned to the country.

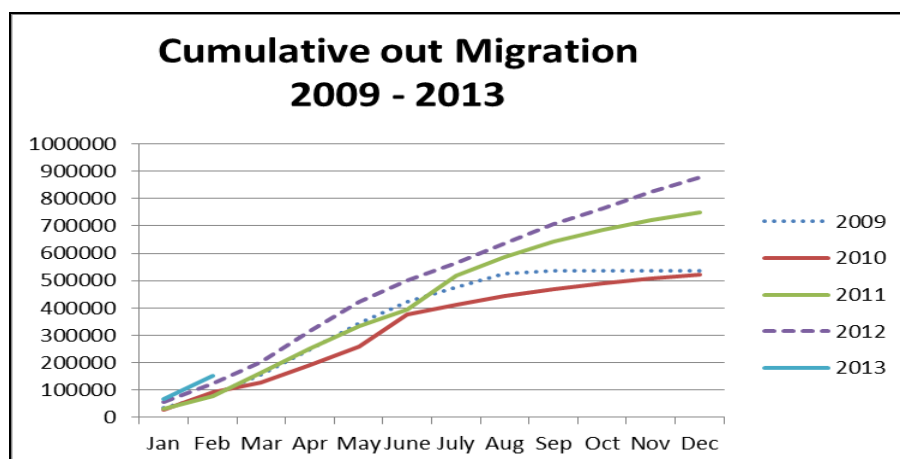
Labor migration from Tajikistan as per January to February 2013 (person) ("-" indicate absences of information)	Labor migration from Tajikistan as per January to February 2013 (person) ("-" indicate absences of information)
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Point of Departure and Return	Left			Returned		
	Total	Gender		Total	Gender	
		Male	Female		Male	Female
Dushanbe and DRD	41,916	31,681	10,235	33119	24,935	8,184
Sughd Oblast	50,927	44,431	6,496	17471	13,829	3,642
Khatlon Oblast	49,206	42,855	6,351	42266	37,079	5,187
GBAO	10,822	8,566	2,256	7174	5,422	1,752
Dusti Border Pint, Tursunzade	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	152,871	127,533	25,338	100,030	81,265	18,765

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, during the first two months of 2013 a total of 20,261 persons contacted the Agency for help. Of this total, 11,763 individuals were registered as job seekers and 8,041 were officially registered as an unemployed. During the first 2 months of this year, 4,660 people were provided with jobs, which is 23.0% of the total number of people who applied. The main reasons for providing a limited number of people with jobs were that most of the unemployed people

do not have the necessary technical training or have lost skills due to prolonged unemployment, and the low level of wages provided by employers.

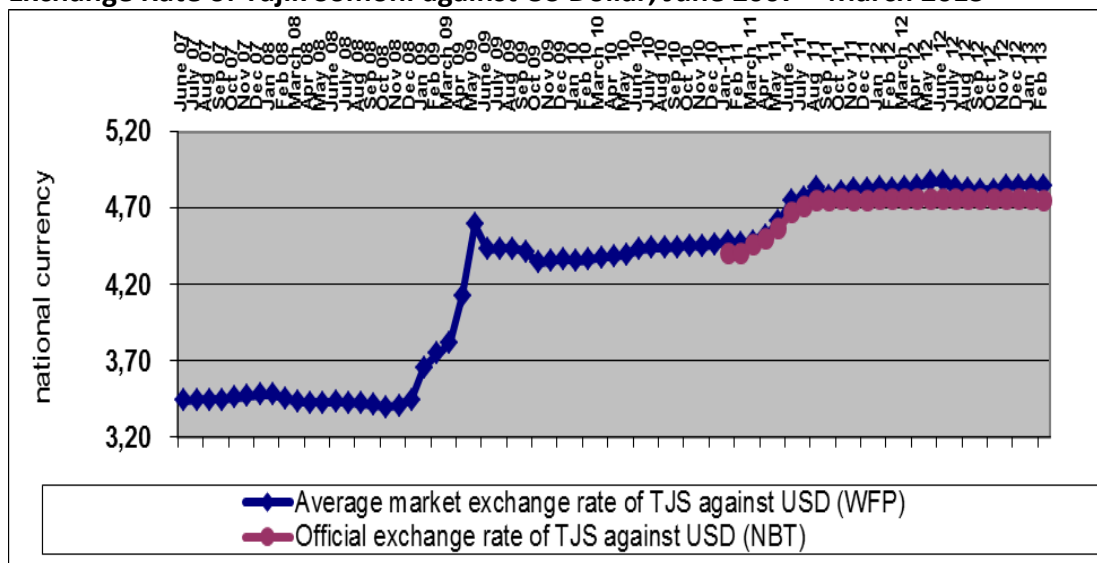
For the first two months of 2013, unemployment benefits were provided to 1,114 unemployed people for a total of 385,642 Somoni (79,579 USD). Including carryover from 2012, on March 1, 2013, a total of 76,609 persons were registered with the Agency as looking for work, including 54,382 are registered as unemployed. During the first two months of 2013, 2,961 people were sent to vocational trainings, 402 were people provided with social-paid (temporary) jobs and 233 people were provided with soft loans for to start business.

According to the State Agency for Social Protection, Employment and Migration, during the first two months of 2013, 25,263 new jobs were created, which is 32% more than in the same period of last year (19,159).

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 March 2013 decreased to 4.75 Tajik Somoni to one USD. The WFP reported an average market exchange rate for five markets in Tajikistan on 1 March 2013 was 4.84 Tajik Somoni per one USD.

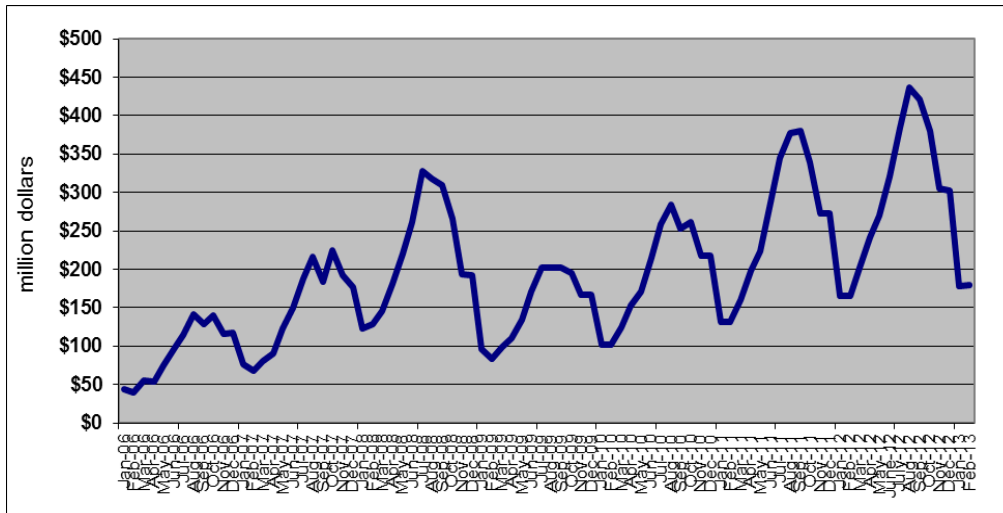
Exchange Rate of Tajik Somoni against US Dollar, June 2007 – March 2013



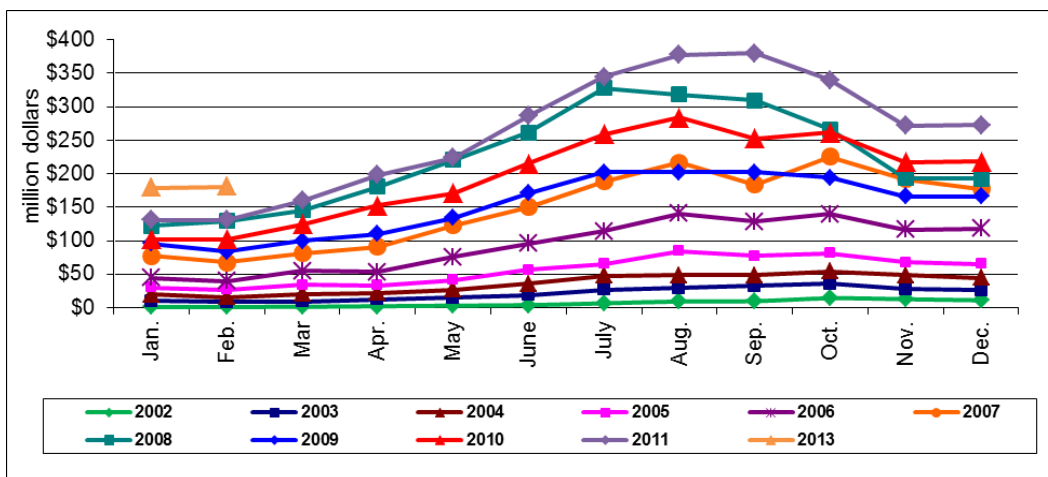
6.5. Remittances

Unofficially reported remittances in February 2013 totaled 180.3 million USD, 9% higher than for the same period in 2012. Remittances are expected to increase as seasonal labor migration increases.

Monthly Remittances, January 2006 to February 2013 (million USD)



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





Annex A- Weather Forecast for March, 2013

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

The average monthly temperature is expected to be 2 to 3°C above the long term averages, and is expected to be 12 to 14°C at the lower elevations and 18 to 23°C in the foothills. During the month, an increase in temperatures is expected. Night time temperatures will rise from 4 to 12°C and during the day will increase 18 to 31°C. In the foothills, the temperature will be from 16 to 27°C. A decrease in temperatures is only expected at the end of the month, with drops to 9 to 14°C at the lower elevations during the day and to 5 to 10°C in the foothills.

Monthly precipitation is expected to be within the norm, and in some parts below the norm. Norms: 43-148 mm, in the foothills 169-233 mm.

Sughd Province

Monthly average temperatures are expected to be 2 to 3°C above long-term averages. Averages are, at lower elevations from 10 to 12°C, and at the higher elevations from 2 to 4°C. During the month, variability in day time temperatures are expected. At lower elevations temperatures will vary from 13 to 23°C during the day and from 5 to 10°C at night. At the higher elevations, temperature during the day will be from 6 to 17 and from 2 to 7°C at the night.

Precipitation is expected to be within the norm and in some parts of the region below the norm. Norm at the lower elevations 25-54 mm and the higher elevations 17-76 mm.

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

Monthly average temperatures are expected to be 2 to 3°C above the long-term average and will range from 4 to 6°C. Variable temperatures are expected. During the day temperatures will be 4 to 12°C and during the night from -7 to +5°C.

Monthly precipitation is expected to be within the long term averages and in some parts below the norm (Norm: DRD 62-160 mm and in western GBAO 17-76mm).

Eastern Regions of GBAO

Monthly average temperatures are expected to be 2 to 3°C above the long-term averages, and range from -3 to -6°C. During the first decade of the month daytime temperatures will drop to -3°C to -8°C, with nighttime temperatures from -12°C to -23°C. Temperatures will increase during the month from 2°C to 11°C during the day and from -3°C to -11°C during the night.

Monthly precipitation is expected to be within the long-term averages, and in some parts above the norm. Norm: 5 to 23 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

Ministry of Health, RT

Ministry of Agriculture, RT

Ministry of Interior, RT

Ministry of Irrigation and Water Resources, RT

Committee for Emergency Situations and Civil Defense at the Government of RT

Statistical Agency under the President of RT

Migration Service at the Government of RT

National Bank of Tajikistan

OJHC «Barki Tojik»

OJSC «Tajiktransgas»

Chief Department of Geology at the Government of RT

State Agency for Hydrometeorology

State Agency of Social Protection, Employment and Migration State

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

The United Nations Development Program in Tajikistan and Monitoring and Early Warning Center at MEDT are not responsible for the quality or accuracy of the data provided by external sources or the analysis contained in this report.



Report is available on the website:

<http://untj.org/index.php/coordination-mechanisms/disaster-management/monitoring-a-early-warning-system/54-compound-crisis-in-tajikistan/260-monitoring-a-early-warning-system-in-tajikistan>

<http://www.medt.tj/en/index/index/pagelid/791/>

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