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Tajikistan Mine Action Centre

Information on National Mine Risk Education Program, June 2007

National Mine Risk Education (NMRE) Program of Tajikistan Mine Action Center (TMAC) implements education activities on mine risk according to the framework of its 5-year National Mine Action Strategy for 2004-2008. TMAC manages, coordinates, oversees and supports national mine risk education and mobilizes partners to have integrated activities in mine affected areas. One of the important parts of Action against Mine in Tajikistan is **mine risk education** and realization of this program considers as necessary direction by TMAC that advises and assists regarding implementation of project activities in the field.

On 2007 considerable process of the Strategy Plan is NMRE Program who responsible national staff is developing effectiveness and impact of advocacy against Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and education of risk-prevention and secure safety skills of population living in mine affected areas.

TMAC as an executive sector of the Commission on realization international humanitarian rights at the Government of Tajikistan Republic is responsible to integrate and coordinate activities of all ministries, state sectors and local authorities, international and national organizations in Actions against Mines and especially on realization **mine risk education**. Since beginning of 2007 NMRE program is carrying out by following partners as Tajikistan Red Crescent Society (TRCS) by support of International Federation Red Cross, Ministry of Education of Tajikistan Republic by support of UNICEF, UNDP in 15 border districts of Sughd region, Rahst valley, Darvoz and Vanj districts of GBAO. Some state structures are also involved a little bit to inform population about mine problems. NMRE program coordinates and trains the representatives of the local official authorities and power structures which are located in mine risk zones.

There are 26 districts and more than 500 000 population is living under mine hazards. Presently, NMRE program covers 15 districts that are more affected of mine risk. Anti-Personnel Mines and Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) of five-years civil war in 1990 influence negatively to vulnerable people of remote areas of the country and facing them to hard economical conditions and loss of life. Hazards of mines and ERWs are threatened people of mine affected areas during plantation, animal stocking, and collection firewood, grass-cut and other field works, and visits to see relatives to other villages. Problems of mine/ERWs are badly affected to agrarian sector and environment development.

Main objectives of the program are directed to improve safety behaviour skills and access to informational advocacy sources through MRE activities, provision of MRE Training of Trainers in 15 projected districts. At present time, NMRE field activities are implementing by Mine Risk Education (MRE) volunteers and school MRE trainers in close areas of the borders of Tajikistan-Afghanistan, Tajikistan-Uzbekistan and internal areas of the country which have been mined by conflict army groups.

In order to strength mine risk education more than 3000 Mine Prevention Hazard Signs have set up in border areas and south-western parts of the country. Various types of MRE adapted educational materials as brochures, leaflets, posters, T-shirts, MA Billboards have distributed to population of mine affected areas. Particularly, six thousands of "Guide on Safety Measures against Anti-Personnel mines/ERWs" in Tajik and Uzbek languages, 60 000 MRE leaflets and other necessary manual distributed among program volunteers and school trainers, military people, employees of local government authorities, teachers. Children are the main core group that affect by mine hazards in rural areas because they are involved more to provide households tasks. 21 314 schoolchildren and 474 teachers of 6 schools have been gained MRE knowledge and skills. On 2005-2006 due to support of International Committee of Red Cross and UNDP, RCST 10 safety playgrounds have been built and provided with sport equipment for school students of four projected districts in Sughd Region.

STRATEGIC GOAL	APPROVED INDICATORS	APPROVEMENT INSTRUCTIONS	MAIN DUTIES
Provision of people security from affects of anti-personnel mines/ERWs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Less victims ▪ Safety behavior skills by people of mine affected areas ▪ Cover population with effective drafted MRE program ▪ Integration of activities to Ottawa Convention and Conventions of Geneva 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Conditions children of world ▪ Report of Government of Tajikistan Republic to UN about mine risk condition according to article 7 of Ottawa Convention. ▪ Monitoring of anti-personnel mines ▪ Information about health issue ▪ Needs Assessment ▪ Reports of UN and other international agencies ▪ Report of TMAC, responsible state structures ▪ Report of ICRC ▪ Report of NGO 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep and strategically distribution reserves Actions against Mines (finances, staff, equipments, etc • Process of national legislation action and Ottawa Convention will be continued

The Mine Risk Education project will be continued until all mines and ERWs removed from mine affected areas as well as the demining process will be fulfil due to implementation of the National Mine Strategy 2010. The activities which regularly will be performed by MRE project will be handled to communities members to follow up activities by their gained knowledge, practice and use sources of information.