

Follow-up Reporting

Date: 25 March 2011

Reporting on Follow-up Action to Management Response, Evaluation of FAO cooperation in Tajikistan			
Recommendations	Action Agreed	Action Taken?	Comment/explanation
1. Tajikistan should have a secured, full-time residential FAO presence.	OCD will review the request as soon as possible in order to determine, in consultation with all concerned, if and how it can be accommodated.	Yes Action initiated April 2010 and is ongoing	<p>OSD: The Director-General wrote to the Government of Tajikistan in April 2010 proposing double accreditation and the establishment of a small office headed by an Assistant FAOR (Programme) in Dushanbe. All necessary measures for opening the office and recruiting staff will be taken as soon as an official reply is received.</p> <p>SEC: The MA drafted a positive response to ODG through the MFA, indicating the difficulty to cover the local costs. MFA wanted the draft to be reviewed. Mr Jawad, FAOTJ, is following up with MA and MFA to speed up the process. The recruitment of the AFAOR and the Driver have been frozen.</p>
2. The Project Coordinator should be designated Budget Holder for all national projects in Tajikistan.	TCE and AF to review the audit report as soon as it is released and make the necessary arrangements to work towards assigning the FAO Project Coordinator as Budget Holder as of 2011.	Yes January 2010	Since 2010, FAOSEC delegated BH responsibility to the SPC for one small project funded by the Turkish Trust Fund. TCE did not proceed with delegation of BH responsibility to the SPC during 2010 as all TCE-operated projects closed at the end of 2010 (no ongoing projects in 2011), with full responsibility for the ongoing programme in Tajikistan falling under FAOSEC.
3. A significant percentage of AOS income from both development and emergency projects should be assigned to the Project Office, to allow it to operate without depending on allocations from individual projects.	All services receiving AOS generated through the Tajikistan programme to agree on a new distribution ratio. OCD will work with REU, SEC and TCE in order to find a suitable arrangement.	Yes Funds utilized during Nov-Dec 2010	<p>AOS funds generated by emergency projects were recovered from OCD (now OSD) in 2009 and reassigned to the Project Office. The responsibility for the management of the budget for the FAOR Network was transferred to the Regional Offices in April 2010 so further arrangements will have to be reviewed by REU, SEC and TCE, particularly in view of the establishment of the new office and the transfer of BH responsibility for projects in Tajikistan to SEC.</p> <p>As soon as the representation is officially established in Tajikistan, SEC will further review the matter based on the projects to be transferred to SEC operational management.</p>
4. FAO should provide support aimed at a better understanding of the economic	Establishment of a long-term field post and implementation of Recommendation 1.	Yes 2009-2010, ongoing into 2011	<p>See Recommendation 1.</p> <p>Furthermore, since 2009 the SPC and other staff members in Tajikistan have been heavily involved in supporting the</p>

<p>background of production and promoting agriculture as a profitable business, thus enhancing the appeal of agriculture as a means of livelihood. Emphasis should be on creating an effective legal framework (e.g. through market reforms, appropriate trade regulations; land tenure; micro-credit). This should aim at ensuring that agricultural enterprises, when undertaken, represent an acceptable return on investment.</p>			<p>Government of Tajikistan and donors to undertake a thorough reform of the Agrarian Sector, including agriculture diversification, water reform, land reform, agriculture financing, agriculture governance and issues related to protection of vulnerable groups upon whom the reform may have a diverse impact. Since September 2010, FAO Tajikistan has also been entrusted by the government and donors to lead all six high-level working groups on Agrarian reform, which are all chaired by Ministers and heads of agencies. As of January 2011, FAO Tajikistan are wrapping up the initial stage of the reform process, which will be followed by developing sector strategies for agriculture, water and land along with a 10-year investment plan for agriculture, and negotiations on funding with donors. This reform process has provided an excellent platform for policy dialogue and an effective and efficient coordination platform between donors, government and other stakeholders.</p> <p>The SRO has supported the office in Dushanbe in its action towards the finalization of an agrarian reform during 2009 and 2010. Resources were mobilized through both SEC regular budget and TCP allocation.</p>
<p>5. Policy dialogue and formulation is an area where FAO should assist the Government of Tajikistan. Key areas of FAO comparative advantage include: definition of public and private responsibilities in animal health, grazing, and upland conservation and management. Better means for engaging the Government should be developed and agreed upon.</p>	<p>The current organizational setup cannot fully respond to the needs of the reform agenda and further support is required from FAOSEC, REU and technical units.</p>	<p>Yes 2009-present</p>	<p>Progress reported against Recommendation 4 is exactly about these issues: the reform process will not only allow the government and its development partners to look at where the agriculture sector is going in the long term, but also deals with issues related to the clear definition of roles and responsibilities between the state, the private sector and farming communities, including addressing legal and regulatory barriers that might hinder the achievement of these goals. Institutional reform of government agencies and issues related to capacity building are also at the heart of these reforms.</p> <p>Once the consolidated reform document is ready for publication by the Government, it would allow FAO to easily select priority areas for intervention and agree with the Ministry of Agriculture on what to address and how to do it over the next 3-5 years.</p> <p>Furthermore, as part of the Donor Coordination Council effort on policy dialogue, the SRO has supported the coordination office efforts in the organization of the Tajikistan Development</p>

				Forum held in Dushanbe at the highest level on 3-4 December 2010, where additional priorities and action plans were developed for government and donors and UN to jointly work on. Following the Development Forum, several joint GoT/DCC Sector Coordination Working Groups were established, including water and agriculture. FAO chairs the water and agriculture WGs that are co-chaired by the EU and USAID respectively.
6. A new National Medium-Term Priority Framework should be prepared that clearly specifies FAO's comparative advantage to undertake areas of work in Tajikistan and includes outcomes to be delivered.			No	<p>The Dushanbe office was planning to undertake this action in 2010. However, due to ongoing comprehensive reform process of the agriculture sector, it was agreed to delay the process until the reform process is completed. By January 2011, the initial stage of the Agrarian Reform has been wrapped up, providing the government and its development partners a clear strategy for agriculture growth and development over the next 10 years.</p> <p>Once the consolidated reform document is ready for publication by the Government in April-May 2011, it would allow FAO to easily select priority areas for intervention and agree with the Ministry of Agriculture on what to address and how to do it over the next 3-5 years.</p>
7. FAO should seek means to assist the Government in the development of appropriate veterinary policy and legislation, which should have as main objectives: fostering an enabling environment for improving food security, reducing poverty and increasing availability of safe livestock products.		Yes Mid-2010		Two legal consultancies were organised during 2010, with support from FAOSEC. The final draft of the revised and amended Veterinary Law - based on expansion of private sector-led veterinary services - has now been submitted to the Government for review and approval.
8. FAO should assist the development of commercialized seed production in Tajikistan.	A full-fledged project proposal was developed jointly by AGPS, TCIE, TCE, ESWD and AGST in 2006. The proposal will be updated and presented to donors.	Yes, at latest in 2011 after a seed policy formulation process is undertaken if not before		The SIDA seed project ended in December 2010, leaving seed sector development completed only half way. Thus far no updates or funding has been made available to continue the need work on development of the sector, but there are hopes that a new USAID project may come on track. Nonetheless, the

				<p>SIDA project concentrated mainly on wheat seed and we need to look at other seeds, including potato, vegetable and so forth. Tajikistan will be assisted on seed policy through a regional project and this should lead to a national project proposal when the policy process is finished in 2011 if not before.</p>
<p>9. FAO should negotiate a revised grant with the World Bank, moving away from free seed distribution in order to support greater sustainability.</p>	<p>TCE is currently reviewing possible strategies to encourage the World Bank to accept FAO's proposed approach. For this to be viable, however, in view of the upcoming agriculture season, an agreement will probably not be reached within 2009.</p>	<p>Yes Throughout 2010</p>		<p>A series of negotiations with the World Bank proved to be unproductive during 2009 and 2010. The funding was given to a national Project Management Unit (PMU), and as of early 2011 with the arrival of a new WB Desk Officer in Washington, FAO might be better placed to constructively pursue such ideas with the Bank.</p>
<p>10. FAO should encourage the adoption of modern methods of locust control and prevention, and support the creation of a properly staffed and funded unit dedicated to locust control.</p>	<p>AGP-Locust Group to seek funding for the five-year programme for national and regional locust management in the Caucasus and Central Asia (CCA).</p>	<p>Yes 2009-present</p>		<p>A 2-year regional locust project funded by FAO has started in 2009; a regional technical workshop (the second regional event) was held in Dushanbe in Oct. 2010. The 5-year regional programme, which was endorsed by all countries in 2009, will help national authorities to deal on a sustainable manner with annual in-country locust outbreaks that impact crops year after year and to better anticipate arrival of locust swarms from neighbouring countries through enhanced regional cooperation. In the meantime, Tajikistan formulated specific request for assistance during the 2011 locust campaign and beyond. FAO's effort to convince the WB to divert some emergency funding for locust control has been unsuccessful so far. A number of donors have been approached and final replies are expected from USAID, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, France and FAO-Turkey Partnership Programme.</p>
<p>11. Continue development of a regional approach for locust control.</p>	<p>AGP-Locust Group to seek funding for the five-year programme for national and regional locust management in CCA.</p>	<p>Yes</p>		<p>See Recommendation 10.</p>
<p>12. A second phase of the CAWMP in the Toirsu watershed in Danghara should be developed as an appropriate platform for an Integrated Participatory</p>	<p>Project proposal to be finalized and technically cleared by end of January 2010.</p>	<p>Yes Throughout 2010</p>		<p>The original WB-led project ended in December 2010, though activities were completed in March 2010. During this period, several WB missions took place and agreed to develop a follow up project that would be implemented at some stage in 2011. However, the WB seemed to have had serious problems in allocating the necessary funding.</p> <p>As a result, a project proposal was developed in early 2010 and</p>

Watershed Management project.			submitted to the EU for consideration. However, the proposal was not considered for funding. Currently, FAO Tajikistan are holding discussions with the WB as a follow up programme might be launched any time this year.
13. FAO should play a leadership role on land and agricultural policy.		Yes	See Recommendation 4 and 5.
14. Specific strategies should be developed to address gender, particularly in projects aimed at restoring and improving livelihoods.	ESW will continue to backstop FAO projects in Tajikistan but further efforts are required.	Yes	<p>In early 2010, the SPC requested FAO's Gender group to pay a visit to Tajikistan and to assess gender issues both within the office and how current projects can best address gender issues. This mission could not be accommodated by ESW, however, due to lack of personnel, time etc. In sum, there was no further technical backstopping from ESW to projects and programmes under implementation in the country after ESW supported a series of projects coordinated by TCE and NRC related to rehabilitation and land tenure.</p> <p>Nonetheless, a series of interventions within the office allowed to hire more female staff, while most projects have targeted female beneficiaries and female-headed households, such as the veterinary and brucellosis projects, and the livestock and pasture rehabilitation project, considering that most livestock is taken care of by women, and given that over a million Tajik men live in Russia as migrant labourers. A Turkish Trust Fund funded project, Home-Based Nursery Development through SEC office in Ankara, and for which the SPC is BH, targets exclusively women. The project offers women seeds and seedlings, training and capacity building on nurseries and support for marketing.</p>