

# National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in Tajikistan

Following the enactment of the National Disaster Risk Management Strategy, the Government of Tajikistan established a National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (the National Platform) in March 2012. The National Platform is a consultative and advisory body tasked with coordinating the work of the Government and partner agencies and organizations in disaster risk reduction (DRR), and providing strategic input to the UN International Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction (ISDR) Global Platform. Basic technical and institutional support for the work of the National Platform is provided by UNDP Tajikistan with funds from UNDP's Bureau of Crisis Prevention and Recovery and Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation.

## Objectives

The National Platform formulates and implements a unified DRR policy focusing on the reduction of human and economic losses. The National Platform also provides a mechanism for consulting on integrating DRR into development strategies, plans and programs.

### National Platform Core Functions

- Developing proposals and recommendations on the formulation and implementation of a unified state policy on DRR.
- Coordination, analysis and advice on priority areas of DRR, requiring concerted action at the national level.
- Ensuring progress towards the goals of DRR.
- Engaging different sectors of society in the discussion on DRR,
- Coordinating the establishment and operation of thematic working groups based on the knowledge, experience and opinions of all relevant stakeholders.
- Monitoring implementation of recommendations and decisions on DRR by organizations, programs and projects.
- Cooperating with regional, international, donor agencies and specialized organizations on DRR.
- Transferring knowledge from international experience in DRR to the Tajik context.
- Emphasizing the coordination and cooperation of ministries and departments with respect to Tajikistan's obligations as set out in relevant treaties and agreements;
- Advocacy for disaster risk reduction at different levels.

## Structure and Membership

### State Commission of Emergency Situations Working Group

The State Commission of Emergency Situations and Civil Defense, chaired by the Chairman of the Government, is responsible for overall disaster risk management in Tajikistan. The Commission is composed of all ministries and key operational committees and agencies within the Government with possible roles in disaster risk management. The National Platform is a working group within the State Commission.

The National Platform is chaired by the Deputy Prime Minister charged with coordination of disaster-related issues within the Government. The Chairman of the Committee of Emergency Situations (CoES) is the First Deputy Chair of National Platform. The Head, Department of Ecology and Emergency Situations of Presidential Office, is the Deputy Chair of National Platform. The Department for the Protection of Populations and Territory, CoES, provides the Secretariat of the National Platform.

## National Platform Membership

In addition to the Chair and Deputy Chairs, individual members of the National Platform include:

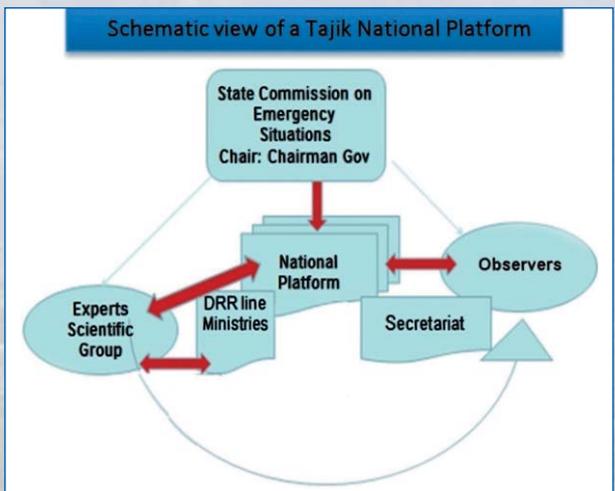
- Deputy Minister of Justice
- Deputy Minister of Agriculture
- Deputy Minister of Education
- Deputy Minister of Reclamation and Water Resources
- Deputy Minister of Finance

### National Strategy for Disaster Risk Management

The work of the National Platform implements the strategies and activities set out in the National Strategy for Disaster Risk Management, approved by the Government of Tajikistan in March 2010. The National Disaster Risk Management Strategy covers all elements of disaster risk management in Tajikistan and is structured around five components:

- Component 1 – Institutional Mandate and legal issues
- Component 2 – Disaster Risk Assessment
- Component 3 – Risk Management and Development
- Component 4 – Preparedness and Response
- Component 5 – Knowledge Management: education, trainings and public awareness

Further information on the National Strategy can be found at: [http://untj.org/docs/Disaster\\_Management/Resources%20Page/Strategy-English-%20revised%20\\_15.04.10.pdf](http://untj.org/docs/Disaster_Management/Resources%20Page/Strategy-English-%20revised%20_15.04.10.pdf)



- Deputy Minister of Transport
- Deputy Minister of Health
- Deputy Minister of Industries and Energy
- Deputy Chair, Committee of Investments and Management of State Property
- Deputy Chair, State Committee of Environmental Protection
- Deputy of General Secretary, Tajik National Red Crescent Society
- Deputy Chair, Committee of Television and Radio

## National Platform Expert Scientific Group

The National Platform is supported by an Expert Scientific Group. The members of the Group currently include:

Deputy Ministry of Reclamation and Water Resources  
 Deputy Chair of State Committee on Land Management and Geodesy  
 Deputy Chair of the Committee of Investments and Management of State Property  
 Head of the Main Geology Department, Government of Tajikistan.  
 Director of the Institute of Geology, Earthquake Engineering and Seismology, Academy of Science of Tajikistan.

## National Platform Observers:

The National Platform recognizes the importance of international and non-governmental organizations in disaster risk management in Tajikistan. These organizations have been designated as Observers to the platform to ensure that all views and approaches to disaster risk management are effectively incorporated into the work of the Platform.

## The Work of Tajik National Platform

The National Platform meets regularly since May 2012 to discuss issues related to DRR policy and implementation of the National Disaster Risk Management Strategy. To date the roles and responsibilities of the National Platform have been defined and an Action Plan for 2013 developed and approved. The National Platform is currently implementing the Action Plan and meets not less than once per quarter with more frequent meetings of the Expert Scientific Group. To date, the Platform has reviewed a project involving an Atlas of Hazards for Tajikistan and approved a project for submission to donors. The National Platform has also discussed issues related the preparation for flooding and mud flows during the spring and provided recommendation to State Commission for their consideration. The Platform has also been involved in the development of a **National Disaster Recovery Guide** and how to address several critical issues related to recovery. The National Platform has also discussed the development of a DRR programme after 2015.

- National Platform Observers**
- The World Bank
  - REACT
  - Leaders of the REACT Clusters
  - UN Agencies: United Nations Development Programme, UNFAO, UNISDR, UNICEF, UNESCO
  - International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
  - International and other non-government organizations

Further on, national Platform is focused on development of goals and approaches on integration of DRR into development processes.

As can be expected, just a year’s work has also identified a number of areas where the National Platform can be strengthened. The Secretariat needs further development as the concept of a stand-alone Platform and Secretariat are new to the administrative system in Tajikistan. Greater awareness is needed among a large segment of the National Platform membership about the DRR cycle, particularly the importance of risk reduction on the development process. While the National Platform has significant high-level political support within the Government, like any administrative body, it needs to demonstrate clear and effective progress, in this case in the reduction of the impact of disasters in Tajikistan, to be able to sustain its efforts.

## Contact Information:

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National Platform working group meeting.

