**TAJIKISTAN**

**Evaluation of the Tajik-Afghan Integration, Resilience and Reform Building Programme (TAIRR)**

**Field visit by Sarah Lynn Harris, Regional Monitoring and Evaluation Officer, IOM Vienna**

**8-14 March 2020**

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

* This field visit is part of an internal evaluation of the TAIRR project which will be conducted from the end of January to April 2020[[1]](#footnote-1).
* TAIRR is a 48-month project funded by the United Kingdom’s Department for International Development (DFID) and implemented by the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in Tajikistan along the Tajikistan-Afghanistan border, 2016-2020.
* TAIRR is the third phase of the IOM cross-border interventions between Tajikistan and Afghanistan which started 2013. TAIRR is the third phase which started in 2016.
* Since the start of the project in 2016, the donor has conducted Annual Reviews with partners and beneficiaries. The project went through a mid-term evaluation and reformulation in 2018.
* The project is coming to an end on 31 May 2020.

APPROACH

* Following a desk review, a **field visit** by the IOM Evaluator has been proposed, in which the evaluator would have the opportunity to meet with project stakeholders[[2]](#footnote-2) and beneficiaries and to observe how the implementation went on the ground. Based on the field visit the evaluator will draw an inception report by direct data collection and observation.
* **The field visit and the evaluation exercise will focus on Output 3,** which is the least documented, and **to a lesser extent on Output 2**, which covers grants, community engagement and vocational training. *See table below*.
* Achievements and limitations of the first output, relating to border management, have been collected separately in a Knowledge Assessment conducted from December to February 2020.
* The rationale for choosing this approach derives from the difficulties in accessing information from the Border Forces of Tajikistan, which requires that official requests be submitted months in advance, and also taking into account existing sensitivities over inquiries addressed to Border Forces officials. Considering these constraints, the main monitoring of activities pertaining to the Border Forces has been conducted through one main exercise. This is currently under revision by IOM Tajikistan and will be shared as soon as finalized.

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| **PROJECT’S IMPACT**  Strengthened resilience to conflict and improving inter-ethnic and cross border relationships on the Tajik Afghan Border | | |
| **OUTCOME**  Increased resilience to crime and conflict amongst migrants in communities near the Tajik-Afghan border | | |
| **Output 1** | **Output 2** | **Output 3** |
| Capable, trusted, and coordinated Border Management forces have increased capacity to prevent/ detect transnational crime and increase community security. | Grants and vocational training are facilitated to provide income opportunities and employment for VCMs, SMEs, returned migrants in communities near the border. | Tajik migrants to the Russian Federation have improved access to information on safe migration and access reintegration support. |

LOGISTICS

* Proposed duration and dates of the field visit: 7 days, Sun Mar 8 March to Sat 14 March 2020
* Locations in Tajikistan: Dushanbe and the Khatlon region – in Bohtar area
* Stakeholders: see the attached stakeholders’ list.
* Travel, accommodation, DSA, interpretation, and additional data collection, as well as transcription and translation of interviews will be covered by the project.
* Main contact for the visit in IOM Tajikistan: Anne Maufrais, +992 90 000 66 65 (Tajik number) / +33 666 51 55 68 (WhatsApp/French number), [amaufrais@iom.int](mailto:amaufrais@iom.int)

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DRAFT AGENDA

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Day | Dates | Description | Location | Stakeholders |
| 0 | Sun 8 Mar | Departure from Vienna |  | N/A |
| 1 | Mon  9 Mar | Early morning: arrival and rest.  Early afternoon: meeting with IOM staff.  Late afternoon: departure to Bohtar. | Overnight in Bohtar | IOM team:  Michael Hewitt, PM  Zebigul Shekhova, Senior programme assistant  Anne Maufrais, M&E Focal Point |
| 2 | Tue  10 Mar | Meetings and FGD | Shaartuz, Qabodiyon Overnight in Bohtar | **Output 3:** facilitators, participants  **Output 2**: Grantees returned migrants, and ATCs participants, ATC staff |
| 3 | Wed  11 Mar | Return to Dushanbe  Meeting with Rural Invest, IOM team. | Dushanbe.  Overnight in Dushanbe | NGO partner  IOM team |
| 4 | Thu  12 Mar | Learning workshop | Dushanbe.  Overnight in Dushanbe | NGOs, IOM staff, psychologists, Migration/gov services? Etc. |
| 5 | Fri  13 Mar | Meetings | Dushanbe.  Overnight in Dushanbe | Government partners, donor, and psychologists |
| 6 | Sat  14 Mar | Departure early morning |  |  |

1. The TORs for the evaluation are attached for more details. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. With the exception of Output 1 due to restrictions in communication [↑](#footnote-ref-2)