1. Country Context

The Republic of Tajikistan is a lower middle-income country with an HDI of 0.62 as of 2014. The Russian recession aggravated the weak domestic economy, lowered remittances, reduced international trade turnover and depreciated the national currency against the United States dollar by 24.9% (2015). However, the country has made significant progress in economic development, with a GDP per capita that improved from US$730 in 2010 to US$1,114 in 2014, changing its income level category from low-income to lower middle-income. After joining the WTO in 2013, the country improved its Doing Business rank 2015 by six levels through expanded measures to support and develop the private sector, which contributes 70% of GDP, covers 67% of economically active population and provides 78% of tax payments to the state budget. The country was again among the top ten reformer countries.

Tajikistan has achieved impressive development results on MDG implementation: the poverty rate dropped from 81% in 1999 to 31% in 2015; malaria was eliminated; infant mortality decreased; and universal secondary education was achieved. However, issues such as maternal mortality, gender inequality and environment need to be addressed at national and local decision-making levels.

Key Development Indices:

- **National Poverty Index (NPI):** 31% of pop. (2015)
- **Official Development Assistance (ODA):** 24% (2013)
- **ODA per Capita:** US$43 (2014)
- **Human Development Index:** 188 (Best rank: Position 1)
- **Doing Business Rank:** 189 (Best rank: Position 1)
- **Anti-corruption Index:** -1.00 (2014) [Highest anti-corruption: +2.5]

Key Development Challenges

Tajikistan currently faces a number of economic and security challenges. In response to Taliban attacks in northern Afghanistan, Tajikistan was supported by the Collective Security Treaty Organization to strengthen border control and defence in 2015. The Islamic Renaissance Party attempted to destabilize the situation in the country by causing an armed conflict. Also in 2015, the country experienced serious flooding caused by heavy rainfall and unusual melting of the glaciers; direct economic loss amounted to US$650 million.
2. Efforts to Implement the Effectiveness Principles

A. Policies and Tools for Partners’ Alignment

The National Development Strategy (NDS) for 2007-2015 is the key document defining national development priorities. Lessons and results from the NDS and the MDG implementation process fed into the new NDS for 2016-2030, which focuses on sustainable and diversified economic development and strengthening of middle-class society. National laws Nos. 53 and 49% determine country-level development priorities from a judicial perspective. Joint evaluations of development objectives are conducted between the government and partners at National Development Council meetings and the Tajikistan Development Forum chaired by the president. The SDGs established a critical basis for the development of national goals, objectives and results indicators of the new NDS 2030 and the National Medium-Term Development Programme (NMDP) 2016-2020.

B. Governance and Management of Development Finance and Co-operation

Implementation of the Busan commitments are guided by key documents such as Development Partners Profiles 2015, Foreign Aid Report 2014, Joint Country Partnership Strategy, Shared Principles of Co-operation between the Government and Development Partners, and others. Adoption of the Concept on Local Development and the Concept on State Guaranteed Free Legal Aid demonstrated government commitment to enhancing civil service, legal systems and public institutions. In 2015, Tajikistan hosted the high-level international conference ‘Water for Life 2005-2015’, which set the common ground for discussion on water co-operation at national, regional and global levels and contributed to the formulation of water-related SDGs. Tajikistan launched an Aid Information Management System (AIMS) in 2012 that publishes online information on all external official development finance projects since 2002. AIMS enables monitoring and promotion of external official development finance projects, which enhances transparency and accountability. AIMS data for 2015 was used for evaluation of indicators 1a, 5a, 5b, 6 and 9b during the second monitoring round.

3. Country Ownership

Indicator 1: Partners’ Alignment and Use of Country-Led Results Frameworks

The National Development Strategy (NDS) for 2007-2015 includes indicators for measuring development results. The Medium-Term Living Standards Improving Strategy (LSIS) for 2013-2015 also contains an action matrix and results indicators, where goals, objectives, actions and expected results are presented within the sectoral context. The long-term NDS, medium-term PRS, LSIS, public investment, grants and technical assistance programme (PIP) are used during the development of the Medium-Term Programme Expenditure Framework (MTEF) and annual budgets. The Ministry of Economic Development and Trade sets development priorities and targets and conducts monitoring and evaluation at the national level. On a sectoral level, relevant ministries and departments are responsible for setting priorities and monitoring respective sectors.
Indicator 6. Development Co-operation is on Budget (Subject to Parliamentary Scrutiny)

Development co-operation finance recorded in the 2015 annual government budget was US$363 million, which indicates 58% of such finance was disbursed as scheduled. The extent to which budgets cover resources expected at the time of formulation has deteriorated slightly comparing to 61% of official development finance disbursed on budget and US$368.5 million disbursement reported in the 2013-2014 monitoring round. However, the current percentage of official development finance on budget is higher than the 46% official development finance on budget reported in 2010, demonstrating a positive trend in general.

Indicators 9 and 10. Use of Country Systems

Although the overall use of country systems by development co-operation partners is lower than in 2010, there has been a positive trend since the last monitoring round. Use of national budget execution procedures in development co-operation has significantly increased from 8% in the last monitoring round to 29% in the current monitoring round; use of financial reporting procedures has also increased from 8% to 23%; use of national auditing procedures has increased from 0% to 6%; and use of procurement systems has declined from 8% to only 1%. In this regard, the national procurement system needs to be strengthened to encourage its use. The Country Policy and Institutional Assessment (CPIA) has maintained a consistent level of 3.50 since 2010, but there is room for improvement. Untying of official development finance slightly declined from 81% in 2013 to 80% in 2014, but overall it demonstrates an increased country ownership in terms of untying official development finance.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator 9B.</th>
<th>Budget (ideal: 100%)</th>
<th>Financial Reporting (ideal: 100%)</th>
<th>Auditing (ideal: 100%)</th>
<th>Procurement (ideal: 100%)</th>
<th>CPIA* (maximum: 6)</th>
<th>Untying (ideal: 100%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>INDICATORS 9A &amp; 10.</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>3.50</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Country Policy and Institutional Assessment

4. Inclusive Partnerships for Development

Indicators 2 and 3. Fostering Inclusive Partnerships for Development

National-level multilateral consultations such as the Public Council of Tajikistan, the Consultative Council under the president on the improvement of investment climate, and the National Development Council under the president all engage development partners, CSOs and private sector to discuss planning, implementation and monitoring of the national development policy. At the local level, regional consultative councils are established to involve private sector and non-governmental representatives. Resources and training opportunities for capacity-building are available for all stakeholders to engage in multi-stakeholder dialogue. Mechanisms facilitate consolidated and inclusive participation of CSOs in political dialogue and for coordination on programming among CSOs, and CSO-managed processes address transparency and accountability. CSOs also contributed to developing gender statistics and identification of gender issues across sectors, including gender-specific perspectives in the planning process of country strategies. Development of a free, open and legally competent civil society has been integrated into the agenda for political dialogue between the government and interested partners and one of the main platforms is the Development Coordination Council. The private sector uses various approaches for interactions with relevant governmental stakeholders, including, but not limited to, unions, associations and various forums and meetings at national and local levels. The government has various initiatives and institutional arrangements that cooperate with the private sector, build capacity and address issues related to entrepreneurship activities and mobilization of private investments.

Indicator 8. Gender Empowerment

The country has an official government statement, central government leadership and oversight of a system for tracking allocations for gender equality and women’s empowerment. Gender equality-focused budget information has been made publically available. Gender-specific indicators and data are disaggregated by sex to inform budget allocation decisions and are integrated into budget planning.
5. Transparency and Accountability

Indicator 5. Development Co-operation is More Predictable

Short-term predictability of development co-operation finance increased from 89% in 2013 to 94% in 2015, while disbursements beyond scheduled increased from 0% to 1%, demonstrating a positive trend. Medium-term predictability rose from 61% in the 2013-2014 monitoring round to 85% in the second monitoring round, indicating increased accountability and transparency of development co-operation.

Indicator 7. Mutual Accountability

Tajikistan participated in the fourth national mutual accountability survey that was conducted by UNDESA with support from UNDP. It will be used in the DCF 2016 and its results will be integrated into this monitoring round. Tajikistan has an official development finance policy or partnership policy that determines country priorities for development co-operation. These are reflected in the Guidelines on Foreign Aid Mobilization, Management, Coordination and Monitoring in the Republic of Tajikistan; Joint Country Partnership Strategy; and Shared Principles of Co-operation between the Government and International Development Partners. Development co-operation partners participate in the development of National Development Strategy and Medium-term Living Standards Improving Strategy before parliament officially adopts the documents.

National Priorities Going Forward

In early 2016, Tajikistan adopted a new National Development Strategy until 2030 and the Medium-Term Development Programme for 2016-2020 aimed at achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. The implementation of these new strategic documents for Tajikistan suggests the use of experience from the previous phase of co-operation with the wide involvement of all stakeholders, including development partners, the private sector and civil society. The Government of the Republic of Tajikistan intends to develop and actively use the national Aid Information Management System to improve its attraction, coordination and monitoring mechanisms, to better align attracted external resources to national priorities and the budget, and to increase the predictability of development partners’ assistance. Due attention will be paid to the further development of national systems in the area of fiduciary issues. The Government of Tajikistan is committed to the further development of inclusive partnerships with development partners in order to promote the implementation of the Busan partnership principles, the agenda of the Paris Declaration and the Accra Agenda for Action. For this, it is expected that the platform of the Global Partnership will be further involved and effectively used.

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Chairman of the State Committee on Investments
and State Property Management of the Republic of Tajikistan

Disclaimer
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For ease of reference, the term ‘country’ is used to refer to developing countries and territories that reported to the Monitoring Round. Participation in this process and mention of any participant in this document is without prejudice to the status or international recognition of a given country or territory.