



Project: Poverty Alleviation by Mitigation of Integrated high mountain Risk

“PAMIR”

JUNE 2011

# Information bulletin

In January 2011, **Hilfswerk Austria International** launched the project «**Poverty Alleviation by Mitigation of Integrated High Mountain Risk**», financed by **European Union** within the programme for «**Environment and sustainable management of natural resources, including energy**».

The project is implemented in cooperation with:

- International agency **Focus Humanitarian Assistance** (Tajikistan, Afghanistan);
- Public Foundation **Kyrgyzstan Mountain Societies Development Support Programme - PF MSDSP KG**;
- University of natural resources and Applied Life Sciences, Vienna/Institute of Applied Geology - **BOKU / IAG**

**THE OVERALL OBJECTIVE** is to contribute to the reconciliation of MDG 1 “Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger” with MDG 7 promoting sustainable environment by formal research and appraisal of local knowledge.

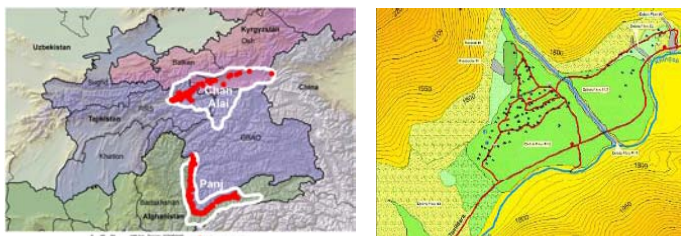
The project aims to generate and appraise knowledge on the linkages between environment, disaster risk and poverty in selected communities alongside the Panj River (Tajikistan/Afghanistan) and Chong Alai valley (Tajikistan/Kyrgyzstan) to increase resilience of mountainous communities to geo-hazards.

The project will provide a platform for negotiating strategies on integration of environmental sustainability into policies among stakeholders of all levels, creating awareness on causes and effects of un-sustainable environment and disseminating knowledge on efficient interventions.

**TARGET GROUPS/FINAL BENEFICIARIES:** political decision-makers at all levels, local scientists, governmental agencies; 120 villages in high mountainous areas of Tajikistan/Afghanistan (Badakhshan) and Tajikistan/Kyrgyzstan (Chong Alai and Alai regions).

- Tajikistan – 50 societies
- Afghanistan – 50 societies
- Kyrgyzstan – 20 societies

**TARGET AREAS:**



In March 2011, the first working meeting of the project partners from Tajikistan, Afghanistan and Austria was held in **Focus Humanitarian Assistance** office in Dushanbe to discuss and jointly launch the first phase of the project «**Poverty alleviation by mitigation of integrated high mountain risk**».



The first working meeting was held with the participation of local experts from relevant government institutions and agencies of the Republic of Tajikistan:

- Committee of Emergency Situations and Civil Defense under the Government of Tajikistan;
- Tajik Institute of Earthquake Engineering and Seismology of Academy of Science;
- State Administration for Hydrometeorology of the Republic of Tajikistan;
- Main Department of Geology under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan;
- State Committee on Environmental Protection and Forestry of the Republic of Tajikistan;
- Soil Science Institute of the Agriculture Academy of Tajikistan;

Representatives of “**PALM**” project (**GEF/UNEP/UNU “Sustainable Land Management in the high Pamir and Pamir-Alai Mountains”**) presented goals, objectives and achieved results of the project. During the working meeting, the “**PALM**” and “**PAMIR**” projects established an agreement on cooperation.

On 16th of May 2011, a workshop was organized in the frame of the project to discuss the development and implementation of data acquisition for *National Environmental Information System in Tajikistan*. Specialist on forestry modeling and environmental information systems, Dr. Falk-Juri Knauft, introduced his plan on establishment of a new internet-based platform where environmentally related data can be stored, visualized and accessed as needed.



Similar information systems on environment / ecology have been developed in several countries of the world and proved their effectiveness in solving environmental problems and sustainable natural resource management.

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The electronic version of this Information Bulletin is available at the following project site: [www.pamir.at](http://www.pamir.at)

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The views expressed in this bulletin do not necessarily reflect the views of the **European Commission**.

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