



# Higher Education System in Tajikistan

National Tempus Office in Tajikistan  
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## Country Overview



- Tajikistan is a small, landlocked mountainous country located in Central Asia - bordering Afghanistan (1,206km, south), Uzbekistan (1,161km west), Kyrgyzstan (870km, north) and China (414km, east). In total, 93% of the land is mountainous.

*Number of population – 7 063 800*

*Youth of 15-24 – 1 607 400 (22.7%)*

*Current number of students 132,000(2008)*

- The country is implementing significant changes to its education system which are all derived from Tajikistan's independence as a result of the break-up of the former Soviet Union and the subsequent civil war (1992-1997). Unfortunately the civil war caused the outflow of the most qualified part of population.



European Commission

TEMPUS

# Country Overview





### State policy in the field of the higher education is based on the following principles:

- Equal access to higher education for all;
- Equal and a full girls' access to higher education;
- Identifying priority directions for the development of research, technologies, training and retraining specialists;
- Civil education;
- Protection and development of achievements and traditions of the higher education school;
- Integration of the tajik higher education system into the global education;
- Development of life-long learning of the education process;
- State support of:  
*training of specialists,*  
*fundamental and applied sciences research*



### Legal Framework

- Constitution of the Republic of Tajikistan
- Law on Education
- Standard Provisions on Educational Establishments for Higher Vocational Education
- State Educational Standards For Secondary and Higher Vocational Education
- The National Educational Concept for the Republic of Tajikistan
- Law of the RT on higher professional and post-higher education
- Strategic Directions for long-term reform of the educational system in Tajikistan 2004-2015



### **There are 32 higher education institutions:**

- 16 universities (with branches)
- 12 institutes
- 1 private institute
- 3 Academies
- Among total number of teachers:
  - Doctor of sciences - 6,3%
  - Candidate of sciences - 29%



The higher education system is in the process of transformation to a 3 cycle structure:

- Specialists
- Bachelor
- Masters

Currently universities are transforming to a credit system (ECTS) (2008-2012).



### Major Problems:

- Development of a legal framework in the context of new economic relations
- Expansion of the higher education institutions network in the context of training specialists in accordance with local market needs
- Provision of universities with the relevant teaching staff
- Improvement of fund-raising
- Improvement teaching academic level
- Improvement of quality of the education
- Social protection of academic staff and professors
- Improvement of curricula and teaching materials
- Development of international relations
- Corruption in education



### **Cooperation of the Ministry of Education with Donors involved in the field of higher education reform:**

- European Commission
- World Bank
- UNDP
- OSI Tajikistan



The most recent project (MoE, UNDP, WB, OSI-Tajikistan)  
*Introduction of the National Testing Centre on University entry level*

Goals:

- Equal access to higher education
- Improvement of the quality of higher education
- Reduction of corruption in education

## Tempus in Tajikistan



- Programme was opened to Tajikistan in 2004
- Implemented 16 projects between 2004 - 2006
- Total budget allocated: € 3.3 million
- Actively involved in Tempus higher education institutions:

Tajik Technological University

Tajik State University of Commerce

Tajik Technical University

Tajik Medical University



### 2 Multi-country projects:

- Plan to establish Research-Science-Enterprise oriented universities for the benefit of society *BE-CZ,FI,LT,ES,DE,UZ, TJ-KG-KZ*
- Central Asian Network for Quality assurance and Accreditation *PL-ES-NL-FR-BE, KZ-TJ-KG*



### Joint Projects

- **Curricula Reform** - Modernisation of curricula with 3 cycle structure, ECTS and degree recognition (Agricultural sciences, Education/Teaching, Medical sciences, Information Technology)
- **Governance reform** - Introduction of Quality Assurance
- **Higher Education and Society** - Development of lifelong learning in society at large



### Structural Measures

- **Governance reform** - Introduction of Quality Assurance;  
Equal and transparent access to higher education
- **Higher Education and Society** – Development of lifelong learning in society at large



### Challenges:

- Involvement of more non-academic EU institutions
- Involvement of more EU countries
- Involvement of regional HEIs from Tajikistan
- Project ideas should be initiated by Tajik HEIs
- Project intervention and outputs should not limit to HEIs limits
- Local HEIs need capacity building inputs from EU partners



*Thank you  
for attention and interest to  
Tajikistan!!!*

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