

Analysis of Tajikistan's new World Bank Country Partnership Framework 2019 - 2023



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Cover Photo by Mauro Gambini

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1. Introduction to the BIC Europe project: 'Empowering civil society to influence World Bank Strategies in Central Asia'

Bank Information Center Europe (BIC Europe) is an independent, non-profit, non-governmental organisation that holds International Financial Institutions to account, advocating for:

- Protection of rights
- Participation and transparency
- Public accountability in the operations of multilateral development banks.

BIC Europe partners with civil society in developing and transition countries to influence the World Bank and other international financial institutions to promote social and economic justice and ecological sustainability. BIC Europe organises its work around two issue areas: Rights and Accountability and Ecological Justice.

During 2019 BIC Europe is implementing a new project called "Empowering civil society to influence World Bank strategies in Central Asia", focusing on Kazakhstan and Tajikistan. The project seeks to increase transparency, accountability and learning in the World Bank's country strategy development and implementation through more effective civil society engagement, and thus improve social and environmental outcomes, as well as influence national policies.

The World Bank's [Country Engagement approach](#) was introduced in 2014 and consists of four steps, resulting in two key documents: the Systematic Country Diagnostic (SCD) and the Country Partnership Framework (CPF). The SCD assesses the country context, which then feeds into the development of the CPF – the actual strategy, which replaced the Country Assistance/ Partnership Strategy (CAS/CPS). These two steps should build on consultative processes with the government and key stakeholders, including civil society. The last two steps in the process, the Performance and Learning Review (PLR) and the Completion and Learning Review (CLR), assess progress and looks at lessons learned.¹

A new CPF for Tajikistan², covering 2019-2023, was released in May 2019. Online and face to face consultations with stakeholders, including civil society representatives, were held in May 2018, but many CSOs, especially human rights defenders and rural CSOs, were not aware of the consultations and had

no information about the schedule and content of the consultations.

As part of its project, BIC Europe, together with the local Open Society Foundation office, organised a workshop for civil society in Tajikistan in March 2019. The workshop aimed to build awareness among key civil society groups about the World Bank's country strategy and engagement processes, and to increase understanding and engagement on related issues, with a particular focus on the public consultation process on the CPF. In preparation for the workshop, BIC Europe launched a new civil society guide on the CPF process in [English](#)³, [Russian](#)⁴ and [Tajik](#)⁵.

25 civil society representatives took part in the Tajikistan workshop, as well as three World Bank staff, including the Country Manager. The participation of the World Bank allowed civil society to both be informed by the World Bank and to ask questions, leading to active discussions. Civil society groups agreed several common advocacy positions in the workshop (see chapter 5 for detailed information). Building on the workshop outcomes, participating civil society organisations sent a set of recommendations to the World Bank in March 2019.

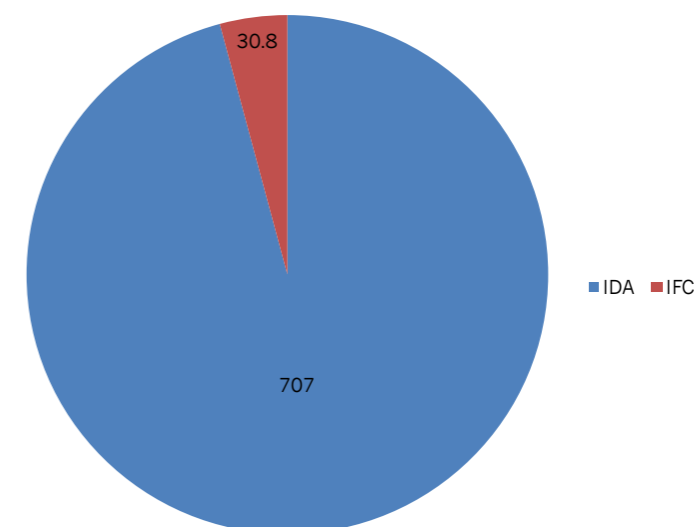
This analysis reviews the new CPF, including a comparison with the set of CSO recommendations, to find out to what extent civil society priorities are reflected in the CPF. The report starts with an overview of current WB activities in Tajikistan and compares it with the proposed portfolio under the new CPF. It then provides a brief overview of some of the World Bank priorities in the CPF, with particular attention to its human capital focus area, followed by an analysis building on CSO priorities identified in the CPF workshop organised by BIC Europe in Tajikistan in March 2019.

2. World Bank Group activities in Tajikistan

The World Bank provides support for Tajikistan under its low-income country arm, the International Development Association (IDA). According to the new CPF, in early April 2019 the World Bank's active portfolio in Tajikistan included 18 projects, with a net commitment of US\$707 million (Graph 1). Out of these, 13 were national operations with net IDA commitments of US\$510 million and five regional operations with US\$132 million in IDA commitments (US\$86 million against the regional and US\$46 million against the national envelopes).

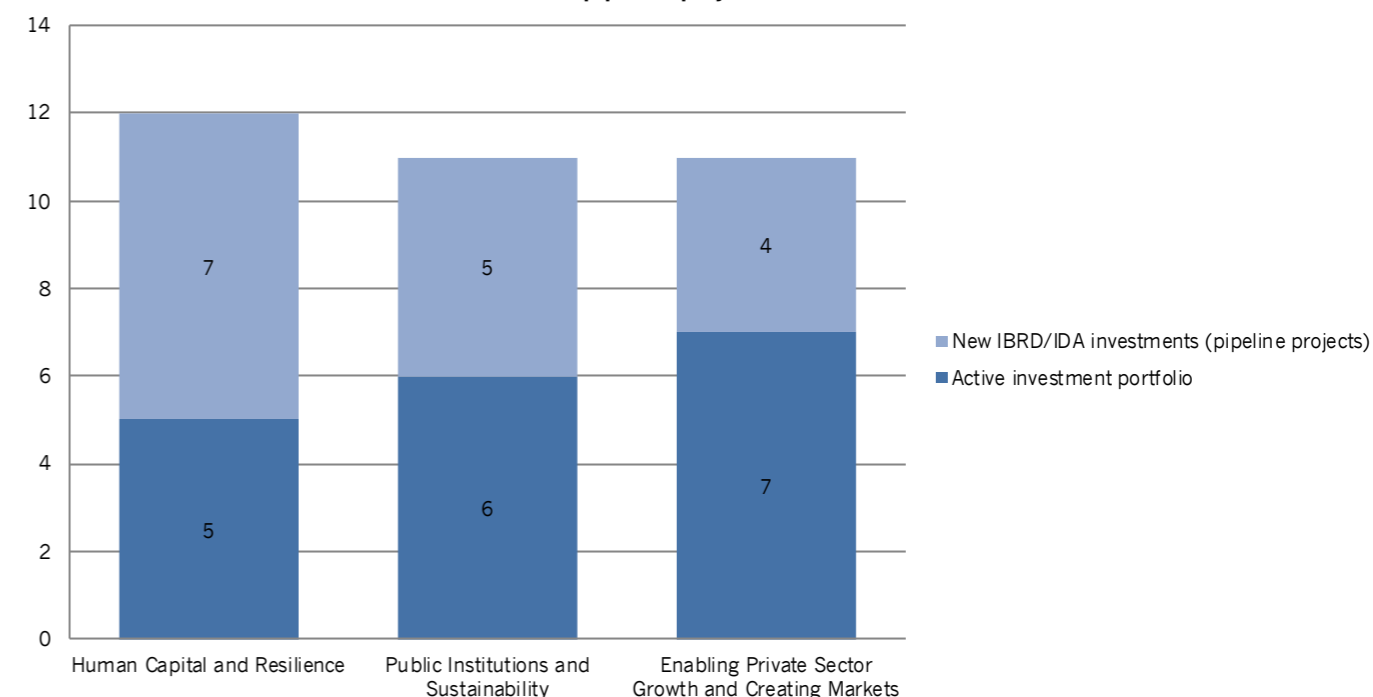
The World Bank strengthened its human capital proj-

GRAPH 1: WB portfolio in Tajikistan, 2019, millions \$



Source: Tajikistan CPF, page 34.

GRAPH 2: Number of WB active and pipeline projects under the three CPF focus areas, FY2019



Source: Tajikistan CPF, page 38-48, Annex 1

ect portfolio in 2019 FY by increasing the number of projects in the new CPF (Graph 2). Tajikistan also receives investment through the World Bank's private sector arm, the International Finance Corporation (IFC). The IFC's investment portfolio as of FY19 comprises of nine investment projects with seven active investment clients, totalling US\$30.8 million. The World Bank's political guarantee arm, the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA), currently has no exposure in Tajikistan. According to the CPF, the IFC's investment programme supports the following

sectors: financial, telecommunications, hydropower, retail, tourism, and manufacturing. Projects in the financial sector constitute over 50% of the IFC's active portfolio. Moreover, according to the CPF: "An extensive program of advisory activities joint with the World Bank and independently focuses on improving the business-enabling environment, improving private-sector capacity, strengthening the financial sector, supporting the development of agribusiness, and enabling private-sector participation in infrastructure."

3. Systematic Country Diagnostic priorities

In preparation for the CPF, the World Bank, together with the Tajik government, developed a Systematic Country Diagnostic (SCD)⁶ which was released in June 2018. While the SCD provides a brief summary of the consultation process there is no detailed publicly available information of the discussions or lists of participants.

The SCD focused on assisting the implementation of the National Development Strategy of Tajikistan for the period up to 2030 (NDS 2030), which was launched in 2016. NDS 2030 aims to raise the population's living standards and estimates that US\$118 billion is needed for its full implementation. The SCD outlined gaps in the NDS analysis, including realistic financial projections, and sought to address some of these.

The SCD identified three overarching reform priorities in areas deemed relevant for Tajikistan's ability to make progress on the World Bank Group's twin goals – to end extreme poverty and boost shared prosperity:

“Priority № 1. Macro-financial stabilization. The implementation of a coherent monetary, exchange rate, and fiscal-policy mix to maintain a stable environment for private-sector activity and reduce the social impact. This involves resolving the precarious banking situation, while restructuring outstanding, non-performing SOE [state owned enterprise] debt, fostering efficient financial intermediation, and strengthening financial infrastructure. In parallel, efforts are necessary to rebuild policy buffers to safeguard macroeconomic stability from future shocks, including natural disasters—within a realistic, cohesive medium-term macro-fiscal framework. Capacity needs to be bolstered to manage public debt and fiscal risks.

“Priority № 2. Effective public institutions. Private sector development hinges on the ability to maintain a fair, transparent, and predictable business environment, in which firms have the confidence to make longer-term investment decisions and create employment. To this end, SOE reform is indispensable, in part to promote market competition, innovation, cost reduction, and management efficiency. In parallel, Government needs to reinforce its fiscal institutional capacity, accountability, independent administration, and data quality/access to improve resource allocation and reinforce the population's trust in the Government's ability to deliver high-quality public goods

and services to its population. By improving the composition, quality, and cost-effectiveness of budgetary expenditures and implementation of tax policies, while guaranteeing a minimal level of social safety, the Government would help to reduce risks and vulnerabilities for households and, in so doing, install the sense of a social contract with the population.

“Priority № 3. Investment in strategic infrastructure and human capital. Reliable and adequate supply of electricity and connectivity infrastructure are priority areas. To this end, the power utility's institutional capacity and financial viability would need to be bolstered. Strategic investments in transport and ICT infrastructure would help to ease transport and digital connectivity constraints, promoting Tajikistan's access to economic opportunities in regional and global economies. In parallel, Tajikistan needs to ensure that human productive capabilities will be utilized fully, overcoming the legacy of limited investment in human capital.”

The SCD presents a strong bias towards the role of the private sector as a driver of development, but few alternative views are assessed. For example, the SCD points to weak legislation as a barrier for public-private partnerships (PPPs), with an underlying assumption that the PPP model is successful, in particular for infrastructure projects; however, this fails to acknowledge repeated warnings, even from the International Monetary Fund, of significant financial and other risks with PPPs.⁷

The most significant gap in the SCD is the lack of measures to address environmental issues and climate change. The analysis notes that natural disasters and climate change “threaten Tajikistan's economic and social development, but there is little capacity to respond”, referencing, for example, the risks to both agriculture and the hydropower sector. It also notes that this is a particular problem for poor and marginalised communities. Despite this, these issues are not discussed further as particular challenges and are not included in the priorities for the future. In addition, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are only mentioned in the summary of the consultations, but not in any of the country priorities. Moreover, while some gender related issues are identified, the three focus areas touch only marginally on how gender equality can be addressed.

4. The new CPF's focus areas and the challenges for local communities and civil society

According to the World Bank, the CPF for 2019 – 2023 was developed in support of the Tajikistan Gov-

ernment's development priorities. It reflects the priorities identified in the SCD, incorporates elements of the IDA 18 Risk Mitigation Regime (RMR) as well as input from stakeholders.

The new CPF outlines 3 focus areas, 7 objectives and 18 projects. The focus areas are:

1. Investing in human capital and building social resilience;
2. Improving the effectiveness of public institutions for sustainability;
3. Enabling private-sector growth and creating markets.

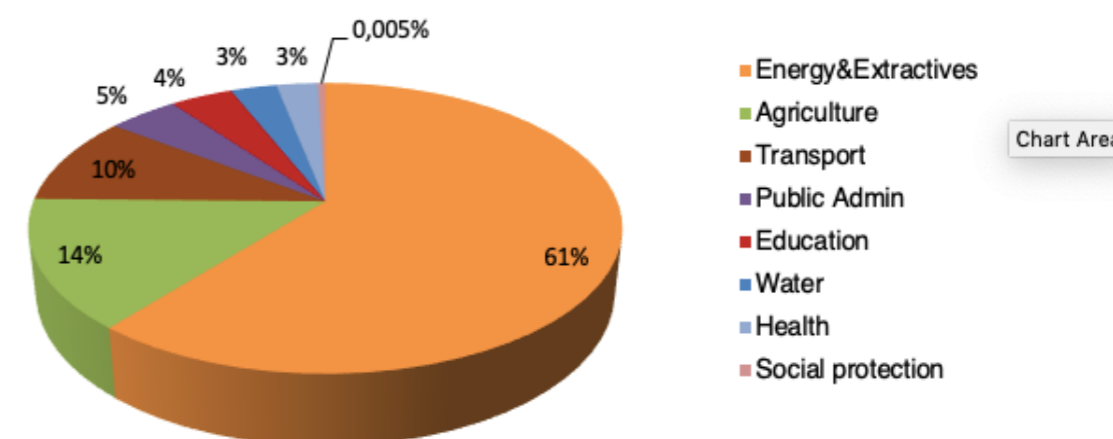
Given the upcoming presidential elections anticipated in mid-2020, the World Bank plans to start the

PLR process immediately after, to amend the CPF in light of the new Government's priorities. This will require further stakeholder consultations, which presents another opportunity for CSO engagement in the development of the CPF.⁸

In light of the social challenges identified in the SCD, the CPF proposes specific interventions to strengthen resilience in the regions most at risk from unemployment and poverty. For example, IFC advisory activities have started to introduce new channels aimed at fostering access to financial services in rural areas.

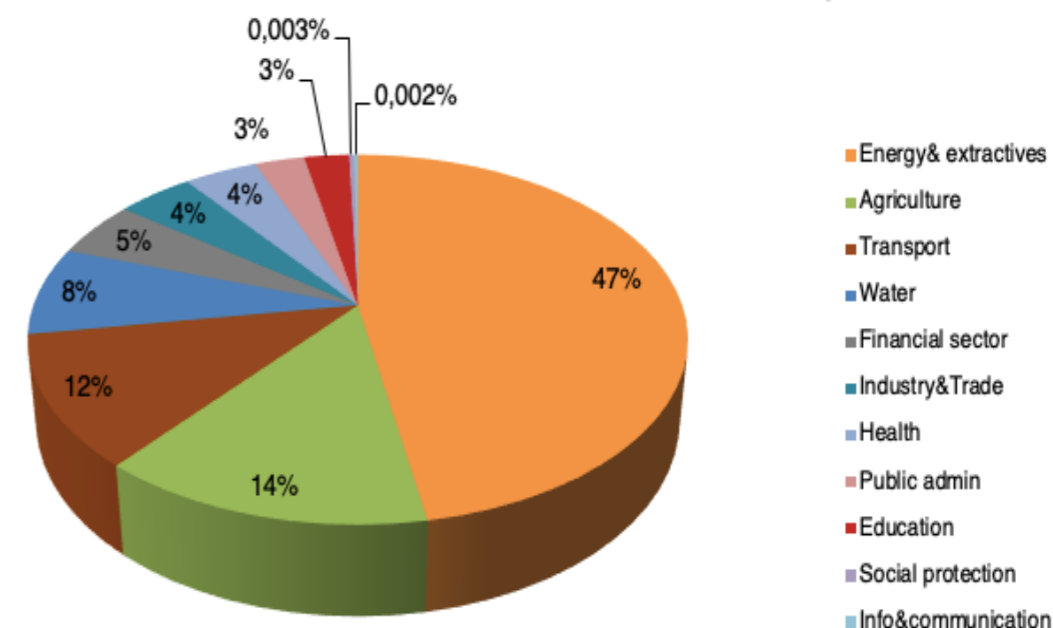
Both the previous and the new portfolio focus largely on the development of the energy and extractives sector (61% of the value of the Country Partnership

GRAPH 3: CPS 2015-18 IDA investment values by sector



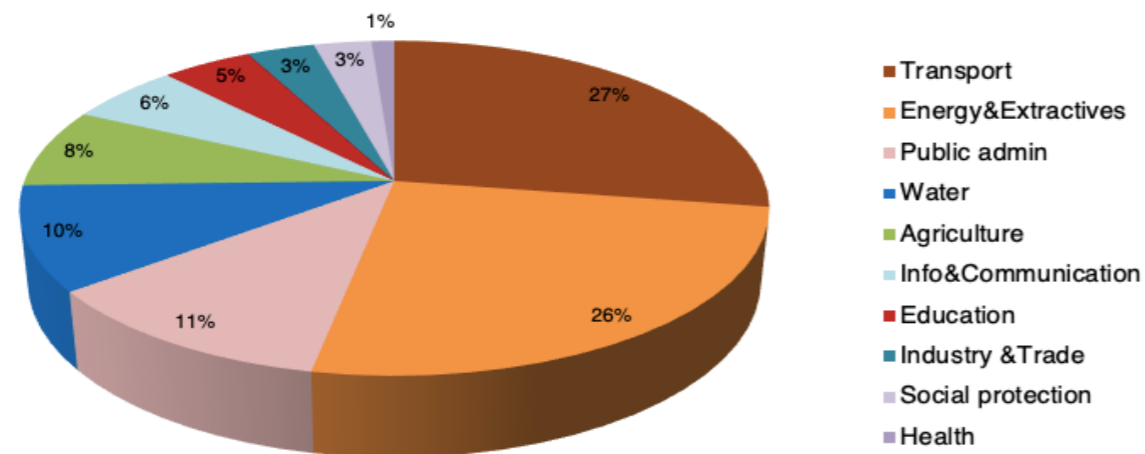
Source: Tajikistan CPF, page 83, annex II-II

GRAPH 4: CPF 2019-23 IDA investment values by sector



Source: Tajikistan CPF, page 90, annex 5

GRAPH 5: CPF 2019-2023 value of pipeline projects by sector



Source: Tajikistan CPF page 37- 48, annex 1 and information from the WB office in Tajikistan

Strategy 2015-2018 portfolio (see Graph3), 47% of the current portfolio under implementation (see Graph 4) and 26% of investments in the CPF project pipeline (see Graph5)).

It is worth noting that despite the strong emphasis on human capital both in the SCD and in the CPF, support for the **health, education and social protection sector is only showing a marginal growth. Taken together they represent just 7 % of the overall portfolio under implementation and no more than 9% of pipeline investments** (5% for Education, 3 % for social protection and only 1% for Health), **half of which are not yet approved and could potentially be dropped.**

A continued reduction of focus on the energy sector can be seen in the pipeline projects, with 26% of the value. The new big focus is the transport sector, representing 27% of the pipeline portfolio (see Graph 5). Another 11% goes to the public administration sector, 10% to water, and 8% to agriculture.

According to our analysis, the most important challenges identified in the CPF that are directly relevant for local communities and civil society fall under the following headlines:

1. Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs)

“In niche, frequently informal, sectors of the economy, micro and small businesses have started to exploit emerging opportunities. Local markets along the Afghan and Uzbek borders, beyond those already existing with the Kyrgyz Republic, have provided Tajik farmers and micro entrepreneurs with new outlets for exports. Local border traffic, some supported by free economic zones, comprise higher-value activities

with considerable potential, such as health and education services that are currently provided to Afghan patients and students. Minerals and construction materials are in high demand. Eco- and adventure tourism are becoming an increasingly more important line of business in the country’s most remote and poorest region in the mountainous East. There is increasing potential for homestay accommodation (most urgently requiring access to running water and, in some cases, electricity), teahouses, cafés, bars, and farm-to-table restaurants. Yet, for these initiatives to flourish, residents urgently require access to running water, and even, in some cases, electricity.” (p.24)

2. Transport

“Tajikistan’s transport infrastructure is very expensive to construct and maintain. More than one half of Tajikistan’s mountainous terrain lies above 3,000 meters above sea level and is continuously exposed to risks of severe natural hazards that disrupt frequently connectivity with other areas and damage assets. These disruptions, including those on the international M41 route to China, impose a considerable economic and social burden, blocking the largely rural population from access to district centers and nearby markets. For these reasons, Tajikistan needs to sequence and sustainably finance the construction of its transport infrastructure, with a view to increasing its climate and natural hazard resilience. For Tajikistan, road infrastructure is an urgent priority, partly because the existing road network has been poorly maintained and has deteriorated substantially, while being exposed to natural hazards”. (p.27)

3. Education

“With high population growth rates, Tajikistan needs

to ensure a proper balance between export-generating infrastructure and productivity-raising investments in quality education and health. Today, Tajikistan’s Human Capital Index (HCI) indicators are lower than the average for its region but higher than the average for its income group. However, contrary to most other countries, Tajikistan’s older generations achieved a higher level of education than its youth. The pre-school net enrolment rate (three- to six-year-olds), at 8.9 percent, is the lowest rate in the region. While basic education, starting at age seven and lasting for nine years (four years of primary and five years of lower secondary education), is mandatory, gross enrolment rates for male and female pupils start to diverge at the secondary education level at, respectively, 96 and 87 percent.” (p.29)

4. Health

“Health outcomes, in general, and those for maternal and child health (MCH), in particular, lag those in other countries in Central Asia or the South Caucasus. Poor infant feeding practices, limited access to nutritious food, and a high disease burden have resulted in an estimated under-five mortality rate of 45 per 1,000 live births. While having declined consistently since the mid-1990s, this figure comparable to India’s is still very high by comparison. This disconcerting outcome reflects the low coverage of priority MCH and reproductive health services, including for critical areas such as counseling on nutrition (an especially important problem for children under the age of five). Despite many efforts to improve the financing, capacity, and physical infrastructure of primary health care, these have not yet translated into better service quality. An important reason is the incentive structure facing providers of services.” (p.32)

5. Gender

“Frequently required to work in the informal economy, women earn relatively lower salaries, do not have access to social benefits and opportunities for skill development. As a result, women are more susceptible to economic shocks, economically dependent, and held back by income insecurity. Aggravating this situation, early or unofficial marriages and polygamous relationships leave a considerable number of women without legal rights. Finally, domestic violence against women is a pronounced threat in Tajikistan.” (p.34)

6. Social vulnerabilities

“In parallel, Tajikistan would need to address existing social vulnerabilities. These range from socio-economic exclusion, (seasonal) poverty, income insecurity, and un(der)employment to the quality of public-service delivery (including in education and

health) and could risk if left unaddressed amplifying subsurface threats to social cohesion. Almost one in three youth (and nine out of ten female youth) are not in employment, education, or training (NEET), with considerable segments in society, such as returning and deported migrants or abandoned wives, being largely excluded from local communities. The limited resilience to fragility risks are amplified by lingering, frequently untreated traumata from the civil war, together with security risks emanating from the 1,400-kilometer (km) border with Afghanistan, with many of the resultant fragilities being comparable to those encountered by other post-conflict countries. Providing youth and vulnerable groups in society with a socio-economic perspective is thus key to a successful sustainable development strategy and the ability to provide Tajiks with improved living conditions.” (p.35)

7. Climate change

“Tajikistan ranks among the most vulnerable ECA countries to impacts from climate change, exacerbated its limited capacity to respond to natural hazards. More generally, Tajikistan’s eco-systems are fragile, and the environment is under severe stress. While some of these risk factors are climate-induced, some others result from destructive environmental practices, including deforestation and land degradation (soil erosion affects about 70 percent of arable land). Another significant but understudied risk relates to air pollution (and resultant health risks). Caused by industry and transport, represents a particular problem in urban areas (often located in valleys) when atmospheric conditions hold industrial and vehicle emissions close to the surface.” (p.36)

8. Rural development

“Environmental vulnerabilities, in the form of land degradation and unsustainable use of natural resources, have posed considerable constraints for rural development. In the subsistence agriculture sector, improper land-use practice, including wasteful irrigation and/or inadequate drainage, amplified challenges of soil degradation and stagnating yields. Pasture degradation, partly a reflection of overgrazing, remains a serious threat. In mountainous areas, the conversion of steep slopes to cereal production has contributed further to land degradation, which, in turn, affected forests and rainfed agriculture. In addition, Tajikistan continues to face the unaddressed challenge of dealing with contaminated radioactive material from Soviet-era uranium mining and processing, distributed over ten radioactive waste dumps in the northern Sughd province. These represent serious risks to the environment and public health.” (p.38)

5. CPF recommendations from Tajik CSOs and its reflections in the new CPF: comparative analysis

During the workshop organised by BIC Europe and partners in Dushanbe in March 2019 representatives of Tajik civil society organisations developed a set of recommendations for the new CPF based on available information. BIC Europe and partners sent these recommendations to the World Bank office in Tajikistan and also presented them in person to the regional director for Central Asia and some of the World Bank Group's Executive Directors during the World Bank's Spring Meetings in Washington DC in April 2019.

The civil society activists identified priorities for the CPF under the following headings: a) civil society, b) climate change, c) small business, d) transparency, e) human rights, f) IT, g) health, h) education, i) water, sanitation and hygiene, j) extractives, k) agriculture and land, and l) gender.

This analysis aims to review the CPF against the CSO recommendations, to assess to what extent civil society priorities are reflected in the new CPF.

a) Civil society should play a key part in project design and implementation:

- Civil society in Tajikistan is competent but faces a lot of challenges, the World Bank should at all times consider whether projects support or undermine civil society.
- For any project it is important to get the analysis right to understand the current situation. Civil society can help with this to provide proposals and ensure projects are set up in a sustainable and efficient way at an early stage.
- Civil society can play a key role in monitoring and evaluating projects, providing an honest review to ensure the funds are used effectively focusing in particular on whether the wellbeing of beneficiaries has been improved.
- It should avoid funding expensive consultants to do evaluations, which ultimately lead to prices going up more generally.
- More than 70% of people live in rural areas – this needs to be recognised.
- The needs of disabled people need to be taken into account in all projects at all stages, relying on accurate data. Follow through is essential to ensure disabled people are not only considered at the planning stage, but also in implementation. There should be an expert on disability in all country offices, and civil society experts should also be consulted.

- Affordability of social services should be a primary concern when considering projects.
- Small grants programme should be reinstated, could support CSO monitoring and evaluation of for example social protection projects.
- Rather than reinventing the wheel, there are already models for how to work effectively with civil society in Tajikistan that have been successful. In addition web platforms with members of civil society could be set up.

Analysis of the role of civil society in the CPF:

The current CPF includes several projects and initiatives aimed to support efforts to improve civil society engagement and other social issues, e.g. the development of a Citizen Engagement Country Roadmap, the Socio-Economic Resilience Strengthening (RMR) and the Rural Economy Development (RMR) projects. The actions planned under the projects include challenges mentioned in the CPF, but as some investments will go through local authorities in the most vulnerable regions there is a risk of inefficient fund allocation or changing priority areas which can decrease the impact of the projects.

The new Citizen Engagement Country Roadmap covers a range of the civil society issues mentioned above (see Illustration 1), but it is not clear how it will be implemented in practice. There should be clear descriptions of the ways the World Bank will interact with civil society institutions and local authorities, including the names and contact data of the people responsible for the realisation of the roadmap activities.

CPF sections which mention civil society issues:

Focus Area 1. Human Capital and Resilience

Objective 3. Improving the Resilience of Residents in Local Communities.

“61. The WBG, through the IDA18 RMR-funded Resilience Strengthening Program, to be implemented in GBAO and Khatlon through three complementary operations to provide community support in different areas. Resilience will be strengthened from different angles: increased social cohesion and strengthened local institutions through community dialogue leading to planning and management of local development investments”

“87. The country program requires complementary analytics, technical assistance, and capacity building support for its successful implementation, especially with regards to the RSP [Resilience Strengthening Program]” ... [including] “(v) Enhanced support for citizen engagement activities across the WB portfo-

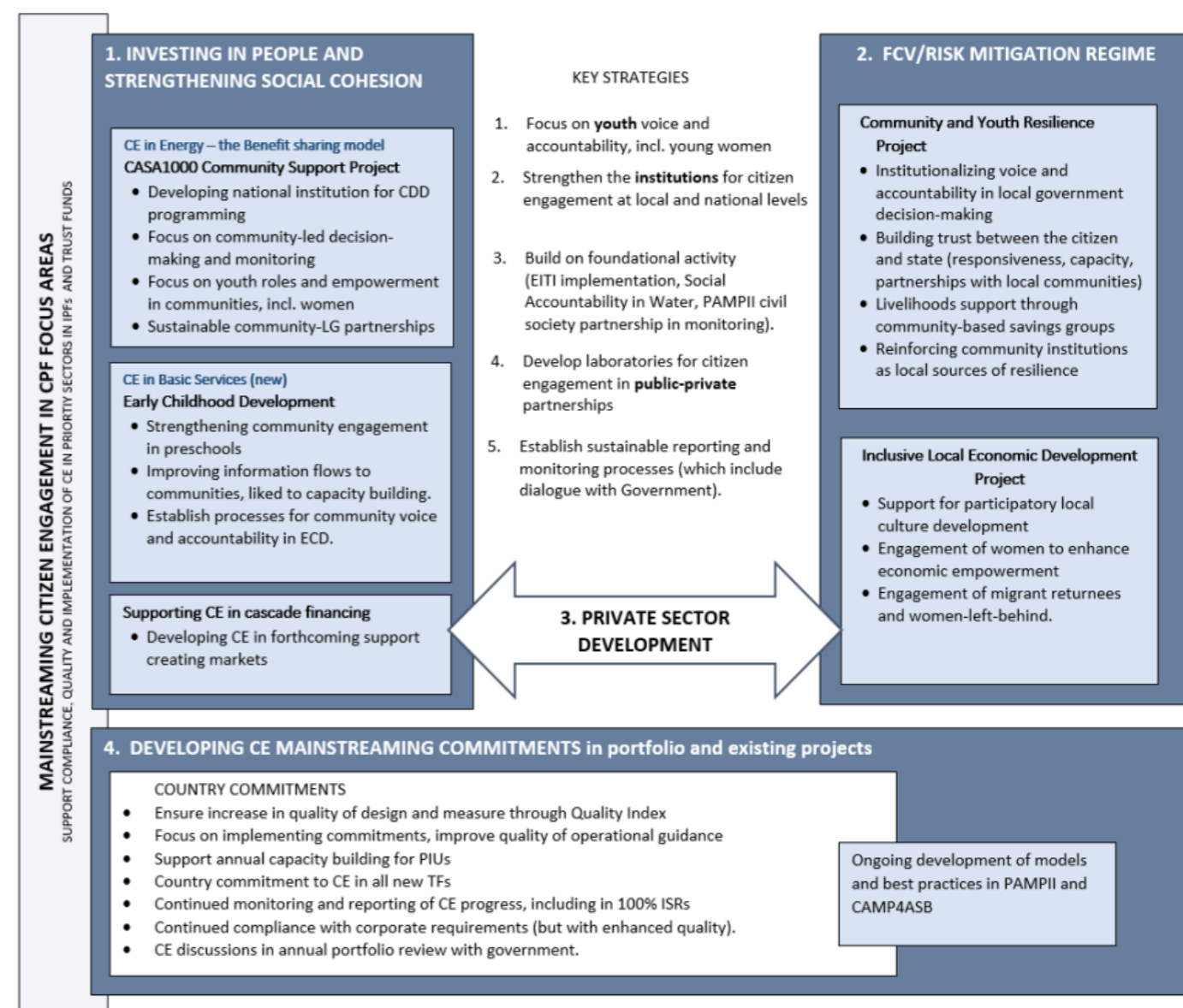


ILLUSTRATION 1: The proposed Citizens' Engagement Country Roadmap

Source: Tajikistan CPF, page 88

lio” ... “The Tajikistan CPF will adopt a Citizens' Engagement Country Roadmap. As such, it seeks to establish country level commitments and priorities and help to strengthen citizens' engagement in program and project designs. Through four focus areas, the CPF will enable the promotion of significantly more substantial engagement in grass-roots work with communities and the development of voice and accountability at the local level, including a focus on how beneficiaries and citizens, SMEs can help to enhance results in private sector development, ongoing commitments in the IDA portfolio, and new commitments for TF-supported operation”.

b) Avoid projects that contribute to environmental destruction and climate change:

- Projects with big negative impact on the environment can increase the cost of social services.
- Climate change needs to be a priority, this impacts on everything, including farming.

Analysis of civil society priorities on climate change in the CPF

The World Bank recognises that environmental issues and climate change are important and launched a [Climate Change Action Plan](#) in 2016, which requires both SCDs and CPFs to take climate issues into account.⁹ According to the CPF, Tajikistan is “one of the most vulnerable countries in the region to climate change impacts, including natural disasters.” Recognising this: “Interventions under all pillars will seek to create climate mitigation opportunities and adaptation co-benefits. Climate change considerations will influence if not guide institutional reforms and efforts to build capacity in public institutions.” Moreover, “the CPF includes important improvements in managing the electricity sector and increasing the relative role of renewables in the regional energy mix.”

However, despite promising narrative, the CPF lacks sufficient detail on how the World Bank will seek to improve the situation. There are two related projects in the pipeline: “Climate Adaptation and Mitigation Program for the Aral Sea Basin”, FY19, US\$38 million (with 57% of the investment in the agriculture sector and 43% in public admin) and “Environment and Climate Change Mitigation”, FY22, US\$30 million (with 100% investments in the agriculture sector), but so far there is only information available regarding the first project. Climate related activities are mentioned in the CPF results framework, but there are no climate specific indicators, despite the Bank’s Climate Change Action Plan stating that SCDs and CPFs “will include new indicators to help WBG track its progress in implementing the Action Plan.”

CPF sections which mention climate change issues:

Focus Area 1. Human Capital and Resilience

Objective 3. Improving the Resilience of Residents in Local Communities.

“62. WBG interventions to address challenges emanating from a deteriorating ecological environment, due to climate change and lack of appropriate management of natural resources, will help to increase resilience to ecological challenges. WBG-funded national and regional activities, in collaboration with other partners, will address environmental vulnerabilities (land degradation and the unsustainable use of natural resources). The range of envisaged activities continued and new under this Objective includes disaster risk management investments, and resilient landscape restoration in vulnerable climate areas that are essential for livelihoods and social welfare and support the development of key growth sectors such as forestry, agroforestry, tourism, and increase the resilience of landscape assets against climate and other natural hazards.”

Focus Area III. Private-Sector Growth and Market Creation

Objective 6: Improved Business Environment

“83. As country highly vulnerable to impacts from climate change and constrained in its capacity to respond to natural hazards, efforts to strengthen the resilience to climate change are crucial for Tajikistan. Activities have been integrated into each CPF pillar. Interventions under all pillars will seek to create climate mitigation opportunities and adaptation co-benefits. Climate change considerations will influence if

not guide institutional reforms and efforts to build capacity in public institutions.”

c) **Focus on small business to create employment:**

- Employment is important as Tajikistan has many young people, almost half are illiterate due to the bad education system.
- Creating a conducive business environment for small businesses is essential, small businesses should not be penalised and they should be at the center of discussions on PPPs – not state enterprises.
- Local NGOs could be supported in a sustainable and tangible way to help develop, for example, tourism and handicraft.
- The economy of Tajikistan is not able to create enough jobs for its growing population. With returned migrants and large numbers of them economically inactive, the quick option is to assist them to be self-employed in rural areas. The Association and Small and Medium Businesses suggested a simplification of tax system for self-employed and family businesses in 2017. The World Bank should consider working on the tax stimulus for microbusinesses, self-employed and family businesses.
- The National Bank of Tajikistan asks the microfinance institutions and banks to reduce their interest rates. This goes against the market rules and macroeconomic policy. The World Bank should work with the National Bank on using the refinancing rate to affect the market interest rate and creating the foreign exchange hedge mechanism.

Analysis of the role of small business in the CPF:

The new CPF focuses on the development of tourism and agribusiness, mostly through the Rural Economy Development project. Education and employment for young people is included in the Resilience Strengthening Program, with the same priority areas (tourism and agribusiness). The CPF does not seem to cover other issues raised by local civil society, for example tax stimulus and access to bank services for SMEs in rural areas.

CPF sections which mention SME issues:

Focus Area 1. Human Capital and Resilience

Objective 3. Improving the Resilience of Residents in Local Communities.

“61. The WBG, through the IDA18 RMR-funded Resilience Strengthening Program, to be implemented in GBAO and Khatlon through three complementary

operations to provide community support in different areas. Resilience will be strengthened from different angles: increased social cohesion and strengthened local institutions through community dialogue leading to planning and management of local development investments; youth inclusive services and livelihood support; creation of new economic opportunities in community based tourism and agribusiness; and providing energy solutions for lagging communities.”

Objective 5: Improved Effectiveness of Tax/Statistics Offices

“68. The current implementation of tax policy has negative impact on business confidence and incentives to invest, formalize and innovate. Tajikistan will not be able to take advantage of the emerging commercial opportunities in the now accessible neighboring markets if this institutional constraint is not addressed. Specifically, tax collection targets, often unrealistic or overly burdensome, need to be revisited. A results-based operation in support of the Tax Committee and the National Agency on Statistics under this objective, seeks to review these incentives, help to rationalize the policies on tax incentives, and enshrine voluntary tax compliance as ultimate objective and mission statement. ...The micro- and small enterprise sector is one area, in which increased private sector confidence can yield earliest results. To this end, the RMR-supported Rural Economy Development Project supports institutions within which to encourage entrepreneurship in production (agri-business) and services (community-based tourism) in the two target regions Khatlon and GBAO. As objectives, related interventions seek to (i) increase the relative share of direct taxes in percent of total taxes; (ii) provide regular reporting in the budget on tax exemptions and expenditures; and (iii) increase the number of registered value-added tax (VAT) payers.”

Focus Area III. Private-Sector Growth and Market Creation

Objective 6: Improved Business Environment

“71. ... An IDA18 RMR-funded intervention to mitigate economic risks for the local population, including the most vulnerable groups in the Khatlon and GBAO regions aims to create new markets. Agribusiness and tourism are the sectors that would best allow these regions to leverage the main assets they currently have, i.e., land, people, and the local cultural heritage. Developing agribusiness and tourism in parallel brings together the synergies of two highly complementary sectors. Studies show that where the local economy is highly dependent upon

farming, tourism can retain more tourist spending locally, which results in higher employment multipliers. The planned operation will combine a number of approaches adapted to purpose, such competitive grants for community-based infrastructure for agribusiness, and investments in selected anchor tourism sights and tourism-related signage, together with matching grants and business services for micro, small- and medium-sized enterprises and entrepreneurs in tourism, agribusiness and related services, and capacity development for public and private sector stakeholders.”

“74. To reduce financial sector constraints to business, the CPF program addresses complex issues surrounding financial sector stability, financial inclusion and development. “

d) **Transparency important at all levels:**

- The World Bank could organise yearly meetings for the public to discuss what projects are being implemented, in what sectors and what monitoring is being conducted as well as the results and efficiency of the projects.
- Budget transparency should be taken into account when developing policy.
- IFC receives a low score in the Aid Transparency Index – this should be addressed.

Analysis of transparency related issues in the CPF:

The Citizen Engagement Country Roadmap under development, mentioned above, will potentially lead to increased transparency of World Bank projects if it works properly, however, it is currently hard to assess as there is no description of how the roadmap will be implemented. Budget transparency is included under the PFMMP II project, as outlined below. The CPF does not mention the IFC’s low scoring in the Aid Transparency Index.

CPF sections which mention transparency issues:

Focus Area II. Public Institutions and Sustainability

“64. This focus area will combine activities to strengthen both the institutional sustainability and ability to deliver according to their respective mandates of critical public service institutions. WBG interventions under Focus Area II—in concert with ongoing projects on tax administration, public financial management, agriculture, irrigation, and hydrometeorology—will focus on (i) improving the quality, professionalism, transparency, and predictability in the interface between the State and its citizens/enterpris-

es;

“94. The PFMMP II project also aims to modernize the national procurement law and regulations and to develop a set of standard bidding documents. Capacity building and professionalization in public procurement, including creation of an institutionalized and sustainable system by (a) development of the Training Manuals, Curriculum and Elearning system based on the current PPL and (b) creation of a sustainable procurement capacity building mechanism in partnership with selected relevant Tajikistan education institutions is recommended.”

e) **World Bank should prioritise human rights:**

- World Bank can play a role in ensuring human rights are respected, for example, in relation to resettlement.
- The WB should promote respect for human rights in all programs funded.
- It should act if gross human rights violations are taking place, for example, by freezing funding.
- The government approved new proposals to the country's criminal code, which would crack-down on social media content that criticizes the government. The fines and prison sentences for posting critical social media content could be more severe than penalties for traditional public speaking.

Analysis of human rights related issues in the CPF

The CPF does not mention human rights or issues related to resettlement. While it mentions some rights related issues, such as education, health and gender, it does not discuss them within a rights based framework. More importantly, it ignores civil society's and human right defenders' concerns about basic rights and freedoms, for example freedom of speech and personal safety. It does not spell out any protective mechanisms which could prevent human rights violations during the implementation of World Bank projects in the country. For example, while the World Bank is not funding the Rogun hydropower plant directly, it features strongly in the CPF as a core priority of the country's development plan, but fails to acknowledge the criticism from international human rights organisations because of significant violations of the rights of the local population ([see BIC Europe's CPF guide¹⁰](#)).

f) **Support improved and affordable IT:**

- IT access is getting worse while the tax for internet use has increased, leaving the end user to pay. IT is needed for multiple purposes and sectors, such as education, for selling products and

services. A lack of good and affordable access to IT can contribute to people emigrating.

- The Government issued a letter to the WB in March asking to include Tajikistan in the regional Digital CASA Program which aims at increasing access to more affordable internet services, improving government's capacity to deliver digital public services and facilitating opportunities for digitally-enabled income generation. On the other hand, in the same month the Government issued an order to increase the costs of mobile internet so the population in the country use landlines rather than online messaging. This is because the mobile and landline calls are expensive and generate more tax revenues, but internet calls do not. Internet and mobile operators are heavily taxed, so their income has significantly decreased in 2018. This is against the national strategy of the government, and would increase family expenses, especially for poor people.

Analysis of recognition of the importance of IT in the CPF:

The CPS analysis in the CPF refers to ongoing dialogues with the government on digital connectivity, internet coverage and usage, including a recent expression of interest from the government to join the Digital Casa project. However, no related activities are outlined in the CPF, including measures to ensure IT is affordable and accessible for all.

g) **Health priorities:**

- Capacity building of staff is important.
- Focus areas include early detection and intervention, and primary health care, in particular in rural areas.
- Project is needed that would allow the Ministry of Health and Social Protection to be divided into two separate ministries: the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Social Protection, in order to take into account of not only the medical aspects of disability.
- Rehabilitation centres are needed in remote areas.

Analysis of health related priorities in the new CPF:

A major concern here is that there is no significant change in the level of health sector investments in the new CPF – just 4% in current portfolio plus 1% in pipeline projects comparing with 3% in the previous CPS. In addition, the IFC is planning possible PPPs in health and education, however, this approach has proved controversial in other countries. Activities to improve the primary health care system and to build

the capacity of the medical staff are in line with CSO recommendations, but there is no mention of the specific needs of people with disabilities.

CPF sections which mention health issues:

Focus Area 1. Human Capital and Resilience

Objective 2. Enhancing Health Services

“59. The WBG will continue contributing to the improvement of the coverage and quality of basic primary health care services in selected districts, including in cooperation with GAVI (Global Vaccine Alliance) to help improve the financing, capacity, and physical infrastructure of primary health care. There are marked inequities in the health system regarding both finance and the distribution of services and resources. Quality of care is another major concern, which is affected by the lack of investment in health facilities and technologies, an insufficient budget for, and Government bargaining on, pharmaceuticals, poorly trained health care workers, and a lack of medical protocols and systems for quality improvement.”

h) **Education priorities:**

- Education need to be inclusive, with up to date education materials.
- It is important to finance projects for the transition to inclusive education and training of personnel in social work (social teachers, etc.). Such projects could contribute to the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;

Analysis of education related priorities in the new CPF:

Investment in the education sector accounts for just 3% of the current World Bank portfolio, plus 5% in pipeline projects. This includes an active higher education project which will be closed in 2021 and there is just one new education project planned under the new CPF – the Early Childhood development (mostly for pre-school children). As mentioned above, the IFC is planning possible PPPs in health and education – a controversial approach. Again, the specific needs of people with disabilities are not mentioned.

CPF sections which mention education issues:

Focus Area 1. Human Capital and Resilience

Objective 1. Enhancing Education Services

“55. Under this objective, the WBG will support multi-sectoral early childhood education and care interventions (ECEC) for three-to-six-year-olds. Current government priorities aim at (i) responding adequately to growth rates above two percent in the pre-school age population; (ii) expanding the coverage in pre-school

programs; and (iii) maintaining enrolment rates after the compulsory nine-year program, especially for female pupils.”

“56. The WBG will also continue supporting the development of mechanisms that improve and monitor the quality and labor-market relevance of higher education.”

“57. Today's young will require the proper education, corresponding skill set and level of professional qualifications to work in a more competitive marketplace; human capital interventions will also serve to reduce social disparities. ... the projects programmed under these two objectives seek to increase (i) the coverage with early childhood education and care (ECEC) programs for three-to-six-year-old”.

i) **Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH):**

- Water supply and sewages are very important.

Analysis of WASH related issues in the CPF:

The water sector represents 8% of the value of the current investment portfolio, plus 10% in pipeline projects, focusing on Dushanbe as well as rural areas. This is an increase in comparison with the CPS portfolio, where the water sector accounted for 3%. Civil society organizations are concerned about the fact that water tariffs have increased, which could negatively affect the lives of low-income groups.

CPF sections which mention WASH issues:

Focus Area 1. Human Capital and Resilience

Objective 2. Enhancing Health Services

“...The WBG will, through interventions in the rural water sector, address nutrition, water, sanitation and hygiene challenges, with a focus on mothers and children.”

“60. The WBG will also continue investing into quality drinking water supply for the population of the capital city, Dushanbe, and of rural areas. Water supply and sanitation coverage in social institutions, such as schools, and healthcare facilities remains similarly precarious. In the harsh climatic realities of the country, these conditions represent significant health risks for the rural population, especially for children.”

Focus Area II. Public Institutions and Sustainability

Objective 4: Improved Financial Viability of Public Electricity and Water Utilities

“65. WBG interventions under this Objective aim at increasing the financial viability of two key public

utilities in Tajikistan, the public power utility (Barqi Tojik, BT) and the Dushanbe water utility (Dushanbe Vodokanal, DVK). World Bank interventions will make sure that these two institutions are managed for financial sustainability while delivering quality water supply and reliable electricity to their respective customers.”

“67. DVK is facing similar challenges related to cost-recovery and weak technical and financial management capacity: Cost recovery has traditionally not been a priority in the water sector. Recent increase of water supply tariffs in Dushanbe12 was necessitated by the accumulated losses of the DVK estimated at around US\$3.5 million in the end of 2017. Financial management issues have included weaknesses in the accounting and internal control environment; deficient knowledge and application of accounting standards; and incomplete records of inventories, property, plant, and equipment.”

j) **Extractives**

- There should be monitoring and reviews of beneficiary rights.
- Transparency is needed: companies working in the industry should be mapped; those who are issued a licence should be registered; and the agreements and contracts between the government and companies should be accessible.
- Regular analysis of the impact on the environment is needed, with a monitoring group including government, civil society and the company.
- There should be public hearings on the extractive companies in an area.
- World Bank could support a Natural Resources Extraction Index with civil society support – this should include development of policies, introduction of international standards.
- Social audits for the involvement of society in the mining sector should be introduced
- Mechanism for recording of social expenditures of extractive companies should be introduced.

Analysis of issues related to extractives in the new CPF:

None of the civil society recommendations have been taken into account. According to the World Bank, the CPF does not include any interventions related to extractives, as it does not “build on existing sector knowledge and experience”.

k) **Agriculture and land**

- Need to build capacity of farmers and support the efficient allocation of land.

- Only about 10-15% of the farmers have land, the others only have certificates and some land hasn’t been processed for over 10 years – this also means they can’t get loans, as the certificates aren’t valid for this.
- There are disincentives for processing products, the raw material is taxed lower than the processed product – there should be incentives to sell processed products.

Analysis of issues related to agriculture and land in the new CPF:

The World Bank’s investment in the agriculture sector is the same in the CPS and the current portfolio (14%) and represent 8% of new pipeline projects. This includes some ongoing investments in commercialisation of the agriculture sector and in dairy specifically. However, in contrast to the CPS and the recommendations from civil society there is no specific focus on land rights. The Rural Economy Development project focuses mainly on improving infrastructure for developing tourism, agribusiness and supporting SMEs through capacity building and business development services for this particular sector.

CPF quotes which mention agriculture related issues:

Focus Area 1. Human Capital and Resilience

Objective 3. Improving the Resilience of Residents in Local Communities.

“61. The WBG, through the IDA18 RMR-funded Resilience Strengthening Program, to be implemented in GBAO and Khatlon through three complementary operations to provide community support in different areas. Resilience will be strengthened from different angles: increased social cohesion and strengthened local institutions through community dialogue leading to planning and management of local development investments; youth inclusive services and livelihood support; creation of new economic opportunities in community based tourism and agribusiness; and providing energy solutions for lagging communities.”

Focus Area II. Public Institutions and Sustainability

“64. WBG interventions under Focus Area II—in concert with ongoing projects on tax administration, public financial management, agriculture, irrigation, and hydrometeorology—will focus on (i) improving the quality, professionalism, transparency, and predictability in the interface between the State and its citizens/enterprises; (ii) supporting evidence-based policy-making; (iii) increasing the efficiency and financial viability of public utilities (to ensure access to, and

affordability of, related public services and reduce, if not eliminate required budgetary subsidies); and (v) supporting the financial-sector regulator in introducing new mechanisms ensuring financial stability and strengthened protection rights for financial consumers.”

l) **Gender**

- Gender analysis should be done on all projects, to ensure that males and females receive equal benefits from the project

Analysis of gender related issues in the new CPF:

The CPF sets out to emphasise gender-sensitive approaches, “in both supportive analytical work and specific project designs and implementation.” In line with the World Bank’s gender strategy, it indicates that a gender assessment has been done and discusses gender issues at several points throughout the CPF, including a specific section on gender and in relation to climate change. However, while gender related issues are mentioned in the CPF results framework, the indicators only include disaggregated figures for women with regards to adult employment rates (25-54 years of age) and unemployed youth (15-24 years of age) who are not in education or training. This seems similar to the Bank’s Independent Evaluation Group’s findings from an early assessment of the SCD and CPF, which noted that “CPFs are much more likely to refer to what is being done in the existing portfolio to address gender issues than to propose future actions (except with regard to analytical work).”

CPF sections which mention gender issues:

Focus Area 1. Human Capital and Resilience

Objective 1. Enhancing Education Services

“55. Under this objective, the WBG will support multi-sectoral early childhood education and care interventions (ECEC) for three-to-six-year-olds. Current government priorities aim at (i) responding adequately to growth rates above two percent in the pre-school age population; (ii) expanding the coverage in pre-school programs; and (iii) maintaining enrolment rates after the compulsory nine-year program, especially for female pupils.”

Focus Area III. Private-Sector Growth and Market Creation

Objective 6: Improved Business Environment

“84. The country program has considered gender issues in the design of operational and analytical interventions. Gender-sensitive approaches aimed at enabling women to increase their voice, participa-

tion, and benefits permutate the RSP and key projects, including the ECD, HSIP-AF, rural water, or the CASA-1000 CSP.”

6. Conclusions

The new CPF for Tajikistan includes commitments to social and environmental issues, some that are in line with the recommendations from civil society. According to the World Bank, it sought to address the following priorities in the CPF which were identified by stakeholders, including civil society, during the public consultations process:

- the quality of tax collection (as a central impediment to private sector activity and investment);
- the costliness and unreliability of digital services (affecting, particularly, the country’s remote and rural areas); and
- the quality of education and health services.

The latter two align with the CSO recommendations, however, there are several gaps that need to be addressed. For example, despite the promising language on health and education, these sectors only account for 7% of the investments in the current portfolio and 9% in pipeline projects. The new portfolio continues to prioritise the energy and extractives sector, with 26% of the overall value (47% in current portfolio), as well as a new focus on the transport sector, representing 27% of the value of the pipeline projects (12% in current portfolio). Investments in the water sector have increased from 3% to 8%, compared with the previous CPS, and represent 10% of the value of pipeline projects (8% in current portfolio). 8% of pipeline investments go to the agriculture sector (14% in current portfolio), which includes irrigation, but fails to include land rights.

While the increased focus on water, agriculture and building the transport infrastructure is welcome, the same amount of investments to the health and education sectors in the new portfolio means that CSO recommendations on these are only partially fulfilled, and some issue areas, such as the specific needs of disabled people, are not included at all. Moreover, despite the concerns raised about digital services as a critical area to be addressed, which was also recognised by the Bank, the CPF pays little attention to this issue, however, in subsequent communication with the Bank, it has confirmed Tajikistan’s intention to join the Digital Casa regional programme. CSOs also have repeatedly noted the negative role of the World Bank in Tajikistan in creating unreasonably high electricity prices for the population.

It is also disappointing that the World Bank continues to steer away from critical interventions to secure human rights, such as freedom of speech. While gender issues receives some attention, there are few indicators to measure its progress, and there is no mention of Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI) issues, despite that the World Bank has committed to improve the inclusion of SOGI in all its work. Civil society recommendations on land rights issues have not been included and, in contrast to the CPS, this is no longer a priority under the new CPF despite its focus on agriculture.

The development of the Citizens' Engagement Country Roadmap is an important step towards transparency and for creating open spaces for civil society, and it is hoped that this will include space for human rights related considerations. The next step is to develop the mechanisms for implementing the plan, which should be done in consultation with civil society and include a clear description of the ways of interaction between World Bank, civil society institutions and local authorities, including the names and contact details of the people responsible for the realisation of the roadmap.

Climate change is a critical issue for the world, and the vulnerability of Tajikistan is acknowledged in the CPF. However, the investment portfolio only has two related projects in the pipeline and the lack of detailed information available makes it difficult to estimate the impact and effectiveness of these projects. It is also unclear how the CPF will address other environmental issues, such as those related to the energy and extractives sector.

The CPF puts a strong focus on the role of the private

sector, coupled with reduced state intervention. For example, while it is positive that the CPF seeks to achieve increased access and affordability of public services, it also promotes the role of the IFC in developing PPPs in the health and education sectors. This is in line with the World Bank's push for private sector led development, most significantly through its Maximising Financing for Development approach, previously called the 'cascade' principles: "to maximise the impact of scarce public resources, the cascade first seeks to mobilise commercial finance, enabled by upstream reforms where necessary to address market failures and other constraints to private sector investment at the country and sector level. ... Only where market solutions are not possible through sector reform and risk mitigation would official and public resources be applied."

Developing and promoting PPPs, in particular in the health and education sectors, has been criticised repeatedly by civil society in other countries¹¹ and it is concerning that the IFC seems to be prioritising this in new CPF. Civil society has criticised this heavy bias towards the private sector for a number of reasons, including that it dilutes transparency and accountability of investments, ultimately undermining democracy. The approach fails to acknowledge that there may be trade-offs between commercial goals and the public interest, and that it can restrict the state's right to regulate in the public interest. It is also concerning that the CPF results framework includes an indicator for increasing Tajikistan's ranking in the Doing Business index. The controversial index has been widely criticised, including by the Bank's former chief economist for being inaccurate and biased, and by civil society for leading a 'race to the bottom' by encouraging countries to weaken labour and other rights in their quest to rise in the rankings.¹²

Annex 1.

New CPF project scope according to the CPF focus areas

Focus Area 1. Human Capital and Resilience

Objective 1. Enhancing Education Services

Type of investment	Ongoing	Pipeline
Lending	Higher Education Project, FY15–21	Early Childhood Development (ECD), FY 19; Potential IFC PPPs and follow up investments in education and health sectors.
Advisory Services and Analysis	Early Childhood Education and Care Policy and Services Review; Early Childhood Development Policy and Services Review.	Ensuring Girls' Equal Access/High Education (tbc);

Objective 2. Enhancing Health Services

Type of investment	Ongoing	Pipeline
Lending	Health Services Improvement Project AF, FY15–20; Dushanbe Water Supply II, FY11–20;	Health Sector Improvement AF, FY20; Rural Water Supply and Sanitation, FY19 (approved in February 2019); Dushanbe Water Supply and Waste Water, FY19; Potential IFC PPPs and follow up investments in education and health sectors.
Advisory Services and Analysis	Tajikistan Health Results Innovation Trust Fund Impact Evaluation; Early Childhood Education and Care Policy and Services Review; Early Childhood Development Policy and Services Review.	

Objective 3. Improving the Resilience of Residents in Local Communities.

Type of investment	Ongoing	Pipeline
Lending	Social Safety Nets AF, FY18–20;	Resilience Strengthening Program (RMR): - Socio-Economic Resilience Strengthening (RMR), FY19; - Rural Economy Development (RMR), FY19; - Tajikistan Rural Electrification (RMR), FY19; CASA-1000 Community Support Program, FY19 (approved in March 2019); Climate Adaptation and Mitigation Program for the Aral Sea Basin, FY19; Environment and Climate Change Mitigation, FY22; Potential IFC PPPs and follow up investments in education and health sectors.
Advisory Services and Analysis	Listening to Tajikistan;	

Focus Area II. Public Institutions and Sustainability

Objective 4: Improved Financial Viability of Public Electricity and Water Utilities

<i>Type of investment</i>	<i>Ongoing</i>	<i>Pipeline</i>
<i>Lending</i>	Dushanbe Water Supply II, FY11–20; Public Employment for Sustainable Agriculture and Water Management II, FY13–20; Zarafshon Irrigation Rehabilitation and Management Improvement, FY18–21; Strengthening Critical Infrastructure, FY18–24; Central Asia Hydromet Modernization, AF, FY19.	Rural Water Supply and Sanitation, FY19 (<i>approved in February 2019</i>); Dushanbe Water Supply and Waste Water, FY19; Power Utility Financial Viability PforR, FY19; Vakhsh Irrigation Rehabilitation and Management Improvement (TF), FY20;
<i>Advisory Services and Analysis</i>	Improvement of Power Tariff Setting and Mitigation of Social Impacts on the Poor;	

Objective 5: Improved Effectiveness of Tax/Statistics Offices

<i>Type of investment</i>	<i>Ongoing</i>	<i>Pipeline</i>
<i>Lending</i>	Tax Administration, FY 12–20; Public Finance Management Modernization, FY15–21;	Taxes and Statistics (results-based), FY21; IFC PPPs.
<i>Advisory Services and Analysis</i>	Country Economic Memorandum, FY19; Ongoing FCI/ IFC AS: IFC Azerbaijan and Central Asia Financial Infrastructure Project; IFC Electronic and Digital Financial Services Program in Azerbaijan and Central Asia; IFC Strengthening Insurance Sector Supervision; IFC Central Asia Agri finance Project.	Tajikistan: Debt and Fiscal Management (tbc); Tajikistan: Assessment of the Informal Sector (tbc); Tajikistan: Distributional Analysis of Fiscal Policies (tbc).

Focus Area III. Private-Sector Growth and Market Creation

Objective 6: Improved Business Environment

<i>Type of investment</i>	<i>Ongoing</i>	<i>Pipeline</i>
<i>Lending</i>	Private-Sector Competitiveness, FY12–19; Agriculture Commercialization, FY14–22; IFC food distribution company (senior loan), 2018–23; IFC dairy sector (several loans to local companies), FY19.	Rural Economy Development Project (RMR), FY19; Central Asia Road Links IV (including customs), FY21; Potential new IFC investments to support private sector in commercial sectors with export orientation, including agribusiness, manufacturing and services (retail, tourism)

<i>Advisory Services and Analysis</i>	Strengthening the Financial Sector (SECO TF); Technical Note on Financial Sector post-FSAP; Tajikistan#D001 Strengthening Financial Stability and Supervision Frameworks; Tajikistan #E009 Improving Deposit Insurance;	Central Asia Financial Inclusion Program IFC potential new AS and IS to support the strengthening and diversification of the financial sector, including microfinance; Competitiveness Enhancement Project (FCI GP); IFC Digital Entrepreneurship and Economy; IFC advisory services on agribusiness, manufacturing, services (retail, tourism), and energy.
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Objective 7: Strategic Public Investments with Potential to Crowd in Private Activities

<i>Type of investment</i>	<i>Ongoing</i>	<i>Pipeline</i>
<i>Lending</i>	Central Asia–South Asia Electricity Transmission and Trade (CASA-1000), FY14–23; Central Asia Road Links II, FY15–20; Nurek Hydropower Rehabilitation, FY17–24	Rural Electrification (RMR), FY19; Central Asia Road Links IV (including customs), FY21; Nurek Hydropower Rehabilitation II, FY21.
<i>Advisory Services and Analysis</i>	Ongoing FCI/ IFC AS: IFC Europe and Central Asia Trade Facilitation Program	Evaluation/Rural Electrification Solutions (tbc); Macro-Fiscal Implications of Rogun HPP Investment;

ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS:

ADB - Asian Development Bank	km - Kilometer
AIB - Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank	kV - Kilovolt
ASA - Advisory Services and Analytics	LSIS - Living Standards Improvement Strategy
BB - Bank budget	MCH - Maternal and child health
BRI - Belt-Road Initiative	MDB - Multilateral development bank
CAREC - Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation	MDTF - Multi-donor trust fund
CASA- 1000 - Central Asia–South Asia Power Project	MDTP - Medium-Term Development Program
CDD - Community-driven development	MFD - Maximizing Finance for Development
CE – Citizens’ Engagement	MIGA - Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency
CLR - Completion and Learning review	MSME - Micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises
CMAW - Creating Markets Advisory Window	MW - Megawatt
CO ₂ e - Carbon dioxide equivalent	NBT - National Bank of Tajikistan
CPEC - China-Pakistan Economic Corridor	NDS - National Development Strategy
CPF - Country Partnership Framework	NEET - Not being in employment, education, or training
CPS - Country Partnership Strategy	NPL - Non-performing loan
DCC - Development Coordination Council	PEFA - Public Expenditure and Financial Accountability Assessment
DfID - (British) Department for International Development	PforR - Program-for-Results Financing
DPO - Development Policy Operation	PIP - Public Investment Program
DRM - Disaster risk management	PISA - Program for International Student Assessment
DRMtax - Domestic revenue mobilization	PIU - Project Implementation Unit
EBRD - European Bank for Reconstruction and Development	PLR - Progress and Learning Review
ECA - Europe and Central Asia	PPG - Public and publicly guaranteed
ECD - Early childhood development	PSD - Private-sector development
ECEC - Early childhood education and care	PSW - Private-Sector Window
EEU - Eurasian Economic Union	QTTA - Quadilateral Traffic in Transit Agreement
EIB - European Investment Bank	RECCA - Regional Economic Cooperation Conference on Afghanistan
ESG - Environmental, social, and governance	RH - Reproductive health
EU - European Union	RMR - Risk Mitigation Regime
FCV - Fragility, conflict, and violence	RRA - Risk and Resilience Assessment
FDI - Foreign direct investment	SCD - Systemic Country Diagnostic
FY - Fiscal year	SCO - Shanghai Cooperation Organization
G20 - Group of Twenty	SDG - Sustainable Development Goal
GBAO - Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Oblast (or Region)	SOE - State-owned enterprise
GDP - Gross domestic product	TajStat - Agency on Statistics under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan
GEF - Global Environment Facility	tCO ₂ - Metric tons of carbon dioxide
GHG - Greenhouse gas emissions	TF - Trust fund
GIZ - (German) Agency for International Cooperation (Gesellschaft für internationale Zusammenarbeit)	TJS - Tajik somoni
GWh- Gigawatt hours	UN - United Nations
HPP - Hydropower plant	UNDOC - UN Office on Drugs and Crime
IBRD - International Bank for Reconstruction and Development	UNFCCC - UN Framework Convention on Climate Change
ICT - Information and communication technology	UNICEF - UN International Children’s Emergency Fund
IDA - International Development Association	USAID - US Agency for International Development
IFC - International Finance Corporation	VAT - Value-added tax
IMF - International Monetary Fund	VE - Violent extremism
IN - Implementation Note	WASH - Water, sanitation, and hygiene
INDC - Intended Nationally Determined Contribution	WBG - World Bank Group
IS - Islamic State	WFP - World Food Programme
IsDB - Islamic Development Bank	YDS - Youth Development Strategy
JICA - Japan International Cooperation Agency	
KfW - (German) Bank for Reconstruction (Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau)	

Endnotes

- 1 <https://www.bic-europe.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/Central-Asia-Civil-Society-Guide-on-Influencing-WB-Country-Strategies.pdf>
- 2 <https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/tajikistan/publication/cpf-2019-2023>
- 3 <https://www.bic-europe.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/Central-Asia-Civil-Society-Guide-on-Influencing-WB-Country-Strategies.pdf>
- 4 <https://www.bic-europe.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/Central-Asia-Civil-Society-Guide-on-Influencing-WB-Country-Strategies-RU.pdf>
- 5 <https://www.bic-europe.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/Central-Asia-Civil-Society-Guide-on-Influencing-WB-Country-Strategies-TJ.pdf>
- 6 <https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/tajikistan/publication/scd>
- 7 See for example: <https://www.brettonwoodsproject.org/2015/09/throwing-evidence-to-the-wind-the-world-bank-continues-pushing-ppps/>
- 8 See <https://www.bic-europe.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/Central-Asia-Civil-Society-Guide-on-Influencing-WB-Country-Strategies-RU.pdf>
- 9 <http://pubdocs.worldbank.org/en/677331460056382875/WBG-Climate-Change-Action-Plan-public-version.pdf>
- 10 <https://www.bic-europe.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/Central-Asia-Civil-Society-Guide-on-Influencing-WB-Country-Strategies.pdf>
- 11 <https://eurodad.org/history-repeated-press>
- 12 See for example <https://www.brettonwoodsproject.org/2018/12/doing-business-2019-world-banks-tunnel-vision-obscures-calls-for-reform/>; <https://www.cgdev.org/blog/chart-week-3-why-world-bank-should-ditch-doing-business-rankings-one-embarrassing-chart> and <https://qz.com/1179239/world-bank-doing-business-ranking-chief-economist-paul-romer-apologizes-for-unfair-results/>



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