



Project profile

Citizen narrative campaign

Introduction

In 2018, Saferworld and partners began a joint project to address people's security needs in the country by working closely with communities and authorities to build trust and cooperation. The project includes security assessments to identify and address the drivers of insecurity in Tajikistan, including those that may contribute to support for violent groups.

Background

The Tajikistan government is now pursuing a strategy to address community security needs in the country. An important first step is getting communities and authorities to communicate and work together to identify and jointly address identified security concerns.

From our analysis in Tajikistan, these concerns include a lack of opportunities (particularly for young people), limited space for freedom of expression, the exclusion of marginalised communities from decisions (including around governance and peacebuilding), a mistrust of police, repressive police behaviour and the existence of violent groups that recruit from vulnerable communities – particularly young people and labour migrants, who often feel marginalised in society.

This project aims to increase understanding of the underlying drivers of insecurity and violence, including those that contribute to recruitment into or support for violent groups. It also seeks to address causes of conflict by reaching out to affected communities as well as law enforcement and civil society groups to come up with solutions through cross-sectoral working groups, outreach and messaging campaigns, dialogue and lesson learning sessions.

Project approach

With partners, Saferworld will:

- Work with local authorities, civil society and community members to address the underlying drivers of violence.
- Offer space for dialogue between partners and authorities, civil society and communities to jointly develop strategies to address the underlying drivers of violence in Tajikistan.
- Provide small grants to communities for proposed outreach campaigns that highlight safety concerns and efforts to address them. These may range from developing leaflets and booklets to producing videos and posters, or setting up mobile theatres.

Throughout the project's lifespan, Saferworld will monitor and evaluate results, and will periodically review progress.



Project locations

Districts of Hamadoni, Isfara, Kushoniyon, Nurobod, Vanj and Isfara town in Tajikistan.

Partners

Association of Scientific and Technical Intelligentsia of Tajikistan, Lawyers Association of Pamir, Marifatnoki, Zarshedabonu

Funded by

Public Affairs Section, United States Embassy in Dushanbe

Project budget

USD 309,304

Project duration

18 months (25 June 2018 – 31 December 2019)

Saferworld thematic area

Security and justice

Activities

- Coordinate meetings between existing community-police partnership teams, public councils and cross-sectoral working groups (CWGs) in the five districts to agree ways to work together to address causes of violence in the community.
- Help local authorities set up CWGs and ensure diverse and balanced representation of communities – including civil society, elders, religious and youth leaders, journalists, teachers, business owners – as well as an equal balance of men and women.
- Train working group members on research methods, communication strategies, outreach and messaging campaigns, and on the community security cycle (problem identification, problem solving, police-community partnerships). Hold trainings on conflict and gender sensitivity, exploring how men, women, girls and boys are affected differently by conflict and how they can resolve conflict differently.
- Carry out research on what drives violence and insecurity in communities through consultations with community members, police and authorities, and support them to develop effective approaches.
- Hold workshops that help participants analyse conflict, and ensure any responses include a variety of groups including women, young people and ethnic minorities.
- Support communities in their public campaigns by offering funding, advice and training to ensure greater impact.
- Organise dialogues between working groups and regional and national authorities to discuss community concerns.
- Produce and share five discussion papers with local and national authorities summarising communities' security concerns and recommendations for how these could be addressed.

Funded by:



Photo: Students shake hands after taking part in an educational theatre performance. Khusrav Zuhurov/Saferworld

Anticipated outcomes

- Selected communities are involved in identifying, analysing, prioritising, and addressing drivers of conflict and insecurity, including those that contribute to support for violence and recruitment into violent groups. They support the work of new community-police partnerships along the Tajikistan-Afghanistan border in addressing local and cross-border concerns.
- Local, sub-national, and national level authorities, including police, consult with communities on security issues, incorporate community concerns into their responses, and operate to standards that are transparent, inclusive, and seen as legitimate.
- Civil society partners, public councils, and community-police partnership teams plan, facilitate and implement community policing initiatives in collaboration with authorities, hukumats, jamoats and communities). They advocate for transparent and accountable policies, practices, and services that contribute to police reform.
- Donors, non-governmental organisations and multilateral organisations are aware of community-centred policing initiatives in Tajikistan and respond to the priorities identified through these initiatives – being sensitive to conflict and gender dynamics in different parts of the country.

Saferworld is an independent international organisation working to prevent violent conflict and build safer lives.

28 Charles Square, London N1 6HT, UK Registered Charity no 1043843 Company limited by guarantee no 3015948

Tel: +44 (0)20 7324 4646 | Fax: +44 (0)20 7324 4647 Email: general@saferworld.org.uk Web: www.saferworld.org.uk