

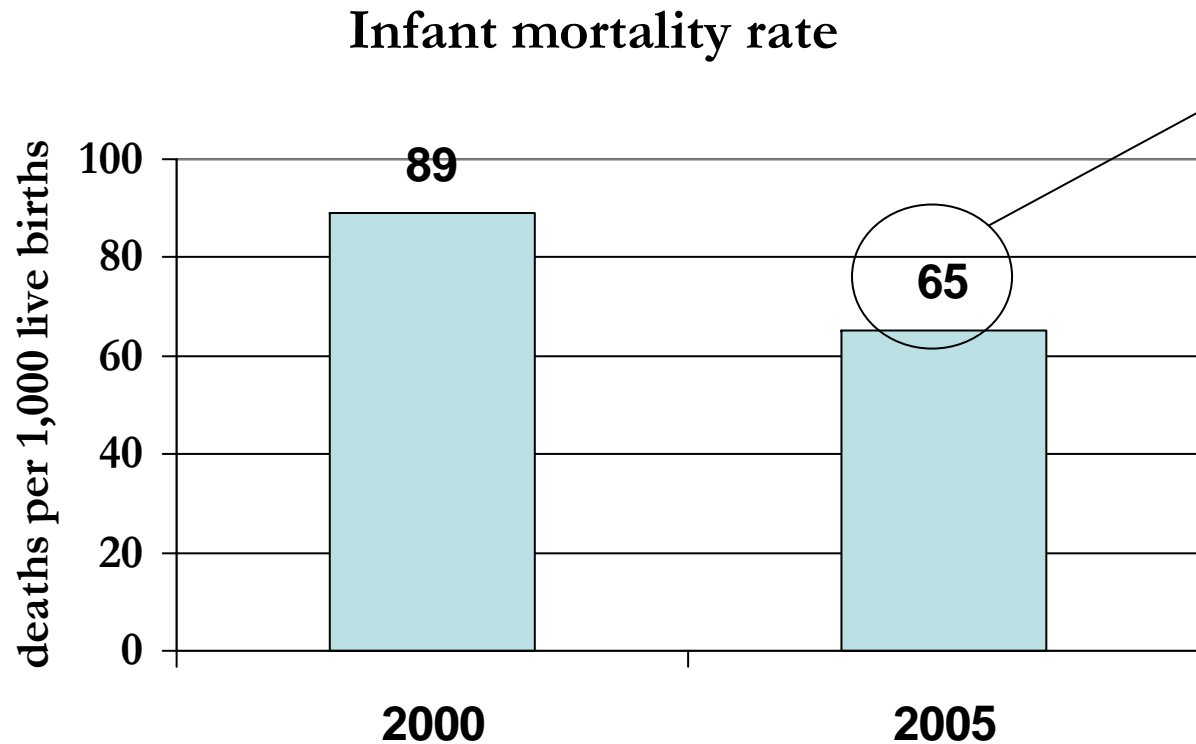
**Human Potential Development in
Tajikistan: Social Protection,
Health and Education**

Tajikistan Development Forum

2nd June 2007

1. Social Indicators are improving with the reflection of the recent stability and economic growth. A long-term National Development and Poverty Reduction still require more investment in Social Sectors.

Social indicators are improving ...



This means that approx. **4,500** fewer infants died in 2005 than in 2000. But the level is still very high.

The proportion of the population living in poverty declined by 18% between 1999 and 2003. But still 64% of the population lives below the poverty line.

... but long-term growth is not assured unless the labour force is highly productive and skilled.

- Micronutrient deficiency and childhood illness hinder children's long-term potential to learn and to be productive in the future;
- Underlying problems of poor sanitation conditions and unsafe water supplies; as well as household practices and food security
- Health care system challenges: number and quality of personnel; status of infrastructure and equipment; affordability for the poor;
- General secondary education enrolment (ages 15-18) in 2004 was 21% (of which one third girls). In 1989 it was 41.7% (of which half girls); and
- Social welfare system is not well targeted on the most vulnerable, and requires a modern concept of social work

2. The legacy can be protected if the government chooses to increase investments in social services, and to invest effectively, efficiently and equitably.

The Government Commitment in Social Sector Financing is a critical requirement to meet the shortfall identified in PRS

This will have to be made up in part from domestic resources. There are different ways to increase funds:

- enabling the private sector to provide services
- increasing domestic revenues
- institutionalising informal payments
- allocating more to priority areas in the social sectors.

The PRS implementation requires the Government Commitment in Effective and Efficient Use of Resources and Accountable Resource Management

- The government has a policy framework to achieve this, the NDS/PRS. Some sectoral strategies remain to be developed.
- Its vision:
 - Accountable management of public finances
 - Budgets linked to policies and plans
 - Resources linked to users' needs
 - Management information systems used effectively
 - Services that cost-effectively have positive impacts on health and learning outcomes

3. Donors are ready to support the government's vision and work toward sector wide approaches in the context of the Paris Declaration

Harmonisation and alignment with NDS/PRS

- Ministries should have sectoral strategies in line with PRS
- Donors will align with sectoral strategies
- Government must take ownership in sectoral coordination of partners

Donors working together

- Coordinated donor support to
 - fiduciary capacity building
 - introduction of MTEF
 - piloting and extension of Guaranteed Basic Package in health and per capita financing in education
 - development and use of MIS
 - capacity building of service providers
- Focus will include local government and institutions