



# TAJIKISTAN EDGING ITS WAY TO GENDER EQUALITY

## A Quick Reference on Gender Indicators in ADB Priority Sectors

The Constitution of Tajikistan guarantees gender equality. Gender equality laws and strategies in the country include the 2005 law “On State Guarantees of Equal Rights for Men and Women and Equal Opportunities in the Exercise of Rights,” National Strategy for Women’s Empowerment for 2011–2020, and the National Development Strategy for 2016–2030.

Tajikistan is a signatory to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). The country adopted the law on “Protection Against Domestic Violence” to address increasing violence against women in 2013. It is also a signatory to all International Labour Organization (ILO) conventions on trafficking

against persons and a Party the United Nations (UN) Palermo Protocol to prevent, suppress and punish trafficking in human beings, especially women and children.

The country has demonstrated progress in some areas of human development, but key gender indicators indicate that gender inequality in the country persists. In 2016, ADB published the Country Gender Assessment that analyzed gender equality barriers in ADB priority sectors. This reference on gender indicators in ADB priority sectors supplements this analysis and revisits selected development indicators in the country to illustrate gains and challenges that impact Tajikistan’s efforts toward gender equality.

# Global Measures of Development and Gender Equality

Gender gap is highest in Tajikistan compared to other countries in Central Asia. Its strong performance in addressing gender disparities in health and education is outweighed by increasing gender gaps in economic participation and political empowerment. Women have weak participation in the labor market and in decision-making positions.

Global Gender Indices<sup>a</sup>

Indices	2014	2019
Human Development Index <sup>b</sup> – female	0.600	0.586
Human Development Index – male	0.648	0.712
Gender and Development Index <sup>c</sup>	0.926	0.823
Gender Inequality Index	0.357	0.314
Gender Gap Index	0.665	0.650 <sup>d</sup>

<sup>a</sup> The 2021/22 Human Development Report will be released in the second quarter of 2022. (UNDP. 2021. *2021/22 Human Development Report to Explore Uncertainty in the Anthropocene*. Accessed on 9 February 2022.)

<sup>b</sup> A composite index measuring average achievement in three basic dimensions of human development – a long and healthy life, knowledge and a decent standard of living

<sup>c</sup> Ratio of female to male HDI values

<sup>d</sup> 2021 score

Sources: UNDP. 2015. *Human Development Report 2015*. New York. Accessed on 23 July 2020. UNDP. 2020. *Briefing Note for Countries on the 2020 Human Development Report*. Accessed on 10 February 2022; World Economic Forum. 2014. *The Global Gender Gap Report 2014*. Geneva. Accessed on 23 July 2020; World Economic Forum. 2021. *Global Gender Gap Report 2021*. Geneva. Accessed on 10 February 2022.

# Population at a Glance

Population growth in Tajikistan over a 5-year period is 10.7%, three-quarters live in rural areas, and males slightly outnumber females.

Demographic Data, 2014 and 2019 (%)

Category	% of total population	
	2014	2019
Total population	8.4 million	9.3 million
Rural	75.0	72.7
Urban	25.0	27.3
Female	49.5	49.6
Male	50.5	50.4

Sources: World Bank. 2020b. [Population – Tajikistan](#). Accessed on 28 July 2020; World Bank. 2020c. [Rural Population – Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, European Union, Kyrgyz Republic](#). Accessed on 5 August 2020.



**Maternal and child health.** Support to mothers and newborn babies are prioritized in ADB projects in the health sector (photo by Nozim Kalandarov/ ADB).





**Education for all.** ADB projects contribute to human development by enhancing female students' participation in STEM education (photo by Nozim Kalandarov/ADB).

# Gender Gaps in Human Development

Tajikistan's economy registered growth, but women are at a disadvantage in development outcomes. The country maintains an agriculture-based economy dependent on female labor yet women's financial inclusion and political participation remain weak. Women are disproportionately burdened with unpaid care and domestic work and constantly at risk against human trafficking and gender-based violence.

## Economic Situation

	2015	2018
Proportion of population living below the poverty line (%)	31.0	27.0
Estimated gross national income per capita, female (in 2017 PPP \$)	1,323	1,376
Estimated gross national income per capita, male (in 2017 PPP \$)	5,922	6,152
Personal remittances (% of GDP)	29.0	29.0

Sources: ADB. 2020. *Poverty Data: Tajikistan*. Accessed on 6 August 2020; Republic of Tajikistan. 2016. *National Development Strategy of the Republic of Tajikistan for the Period up to 2030*. Accessed on 6 August 2020 Dushanbe.; UNDP. 2019b. *Human Development Report 2019*. New York. Accessed on 28 July 2020; World Bank. 2018. *Poverty in Tajikistan*. Accessed on 6 August 2020; World Bank. 2020. *Personal Remittances, Received (% of GDP) – Tajikistan*. Accessed on 7 August. 2020.



## Economic Participation

### Labor Force Participation Rate, 2015 and 2019 (%)

Labor force participation	2015	2019
Female	31.4	31.3
Male	52.9	52.8

Source: UNDP. 2020. *Human Development Indicators*. Accessed on 10 February 2020.

### Employment in Key Sectors, 2014 and 2019 (%)

Sector	2014		2019	
	Female	Male	Female	Male
Agriculture	65.3	39.5	60.2	35.6
Services	28.7	39.3	32.5	43.5
Industry	6.0	21.2	7.3	20.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Source: World Bank. 2020c. *World Bank Open Data – Tajikistan*. Accessed on 28 December 2020.

### Entrepreneurship, 2015 and 2018 (%)

	2016	2018
Individual entrepreneurs (% of total registered)		
Operating on the basis of certificate		
Female	21.1	20.7
Male	78.9	79.3
Operating on the basis of patent		
Female	23.5	23.6
Male	76.5	76.4

Source: Agency on Statistics Under President of the Republic of Tajikistan. 2021. *Time Series of Gender Indicators to the Strategy of Enhancing the Role of Women in Tajikistan*. Accessed on 12 January 2021.

## Financial Inclusion

As of 2017, 47% of the adult population had a bank account. Forty-two percent of adult women and 52% of adult men had a bank account. Those from rural areas make up 46% while population in urban areas compose 54%.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> World Bank. 2018. *Data of Chapter 1 of the Global Findex Database 2017*. Accessed on 10 January 2021.



**Women's leadership development.** Women's participation in decision-making is essential in development initiatives (photo by Project Implementation Unit of Pyanj River Basin Project).

## Political Participation

	2016	2020
Proportion of seats held by women in Parliament (% of seats in parliament)	20.6	23.9
Distribution of employees in civil service		
Female	32.0	23.8
Male	68.0	76.2

Sources: Agency on Statistics Under President of the Republic of Tajikistan. 2021. *Time Series of Gender Indicators to the Strategy of Enhancing the Role of Women in Tajikistan*. Accessed on 12 January 2021; Agency on Statistics under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan. 2020. *Women and Men of the Republic of Tajikistan*. Dushanbe. Accessed on 10 February 2022.



## Paid and Unpaid Work

### Rural Women and Men's Time Use Based on a 24-Hour Period, by Activity (%)

Activity	Female	Male
Self-care <sup>a</sup>	40.4	41.3
Unpaid care and domestic work	28.8	2.9
Leisure	7.5	12.1
Religious Practice	7.1	6.3
Paid Labor	6.7	22.5
Labor for own final use (unpaid)	5.4	7.5
Socializing	2.1	1.7
Traveling	1.7	4.6
Learning	0.0	0.8
Total	100	100

<sup>a</sup> Includes time spent for sleeping

Source: ADB, 2020. *Women's Time Use in Rural Tajikistan*. Manila



**Paid and unpaid work.** Women in Tajikistan devote more time for unpaid care and domestic work, which restricts their participation in economic activities. ADB supports projects that enhance women's participation in paid employment (photo by Nozim Kalandarov/ADB).





**Gender-based violence.** ADB projects support actions that protect vulnerable groups, including women and children, against gender-based violence and trafficking in persons (photo by Nozim Kalandarov/ADB).

## Gender-Based Violence

Women who experienced violence in intimate partner relations, 2019	26.0
Women (aged 20-24 years) married or in union before age 18, 2018	12.0
Girls (aged 1-14 years) who experienced any physical punishment and/or psychological aggression by caregivers, 2017	68.0
Boys (aged 1-14 years) who experienced any physical punishment and/or psychological aggression by caregivers, 2017	70.0

Sources: UNDP. 2019b. *Human Development Report 2019*. New York. Accessed on 28 July 2020; UNICEF. 2017. *Country Profiles: Tajikistan*. Accessed on 31 July 2020; UN Women. 2020. *Global Database on Violence against Women*. Accessed on 6 August 2020.

## Trafficking in Persons

Year (2017)	Women	Men	Girls	Boys
Number of persons convicted of trafficking in persons	43	9	-	-
Number of victims of trafficking in persons detected	64	12	4	6

Source: UNODC. 2018. *Global Report on Trafficking in Persons: Eastern Europe and Central Asia*. Vienna. Accessed on 11 August 2020.





**Access to education.** Tajikistan has demonstrated progress in some areas of human development, including addressing gender disparities in education (photo by Nozim Kalandarov/ADB).

## Gender Mainstreaming in ADB's Priority Sectors

ADB supports the government's development efforts in the sectors of agriculture and natural resources, education, energy, health, public sector management, transport, and water and other urban infrastructure. The projects seek to close the gender gap through women's increased economic empowerment, strengthened participation in decision-making, enhanced capacities, and improved access to social services, water, and infrastructure.

Gender features of ADB projects in Tajikistan:

- Improving women's access to education, water, health services, financial resources, and gender-sensitive urban and rural infrastructure
- Promoting economic empowerment through employment and other opportunities
- Mobilizing women and women's groups for participation and leadership roles in education, agriculture, irrigation, and resource management
- Implementing capacity development for entrepreneurship and non-traditional occupations
- Implementing capacity development for women in communities and public sector on gender mainstreaming
- Producing knowledge products for deeper understanding of sectoral issues
- Integrating gender in project management systems





**Rural women.** Tajikistan's rural women perform multiple roles in agricultural production and domestic work (photo by Nozim Kalandarov/ADB).

## Agriculture and Natural Resources



### Sectoral situation:

- Irrigation water reaches 93% of men's farms compared to 83% of women's farms.<sup>2</sup>
- Only 1 in 10 members of Water Users Association (WUA) is a woman.<sup>3</sup>

Peasant farms (% of total number)	2016	2019
Farms headed by women	21.4	22.1
Farms headed by men	78.6	77.9

Sources: Agency on Statistics Under President of the Republic of Tajikistan. 2021. *Time Series of Gender Indicators to the Strategy of Enhancing the Role of Women in Tajikistan*. Accessed on 12 January 2021; Agency on Statistics under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan. 2020. *Women and Men of the Republic of Tajikistan*. Dushanbe. Accessed on 10 February 2022

<sup>2</sup> Agency on Statistics under the President of Tajikistan. 2015. *Poverty Measurement in Tajikistan: A Methodological Note*. Dushanbe. Accessed on 20 July 2020.

<sup>3</sup> ADB. 2020. *A Study of the Women's Role in Irrigated Agriculture Lower Vaksh River Basin, Tajikistan*. Manila. Accessed on 28 December 2020.



## Projects on Agriculture and Natural Resources

Subsectors covered:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water-based natural resources management</li> <li>• Land-based natural resources management</li> </ul>	
Gender Design Features of ADB Projects	Gender Equality Targets and Achievements
<p><u>Access to infrastructure and other services</u> Improving women's access to agricultural services, including financing, water services, and infrastructure</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Installation of water points along canals for household use</li> <li>• Gender inclusion in formal structures related to natural resource management<sup>a</sup></li> </ul>
<p><u>Economic empowerment</u> Providing access to employment and other economic opportunities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provisions for women's employment in civil works contracts</li> <li>• Employment of women in construction and rehabilitation works, and in support services</li> <li>• Credit support to women entrepreneurs</li> </ul>
<p><u>Capacity building</u> Skills development on employment opportunities, organizational leadership, and natural resource management</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Capacity building program for women on leadership development, management and organizational skills, disaster risk management, climate risks and adaptation, early warning systems, and operation and maintenance of project-related infrastructures</li> <li>• Setting up demonstration plots on farms headed by women</li> <li>• Conduct of cross-farm visits and study tours for women farmers</li> <li>• Mapping of capacity building needs of WUA women members and leaders</li> </ul>
<p><u>Participation in decision-making</u> Enhancing women's involvement in decision-making through participation in consultations, inclusion in leadership positions, and strengthening women's organizations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participation of women in community consultations on water resources management, water quality, service provision, and disaster risk management</li> <li>• Inclusion of women in WUA, water consumer groups, and disaster risk management committee membership</li> </ul>
<p><u>Knowledge management</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conducting studies on good practices and lessons from project implementation</li> <li>• Information campaign on new technologies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Documentation on women's participation in water use training programs</li> <li>• Social mapping of WUAs</li> <li>• Study on perceived improvement in overall household health and livelihood with improved access to water</li> <li>• Gender-sensitive knowledge products such as billboards, posters, and radio advertisements<sup>a</sup></li> </ul>
<p><u>Improvement in policies, programs, and systems</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gender integration in project monitoring systems</li> <li>• Strengthening gender mainstreaming in policies and programs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collection of sex-disaggregated data on Water User's Association (WUA) membership and leadership</li> <li>• Collection, monitoring, and reporting of project-related baseline data and output using sex-disaggregated data</li> <li>• Lending programs integrate gender design features such as setting of minimum quotas for loans extended to women borrowers and assessment of women's needs as borrowers</li> <li>• Resource management plans and strategies integrate gender provisions such as ensuring women's inclusion in membership and representation in management structures, and addressing women's concerns through complaints grievance procedures</li> </ul>

Source: Asian Development Bank. See for example, *Tajikistan: National Disaster Risk Management Project*.

## Sectoral situation:

- Women comprise 45% of pedestrians 22% of all car occupants, and only 5% of car drivers.<sup>4</sup>
- Women are only 26% of those employed in transport, storage, and communications subsector compared to men who compose 74%.<sup>5</sup>

## Projects on Transport

Subsectors covered:	
• National highways	
Gender Design Features of ADB Projects	Gender Equality Targets and Achievements
<p><u>Access to infrastructure and other services</u> Increasing women's access to elderly-women-children-disabled (EWCD) friendly infrastructure</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Roadside rest areas and bus stops with EWCD-friendly design features such as rest areas with sanitary facilities and breastfeeding rooms</li> <li>• Street lights, solar panels, and pedestrian crossings in resettlement areas</li> <li>• Sidewalks along main roads passing through communities, schools, and other public places</li> <li>• Access roads usable to women</li> </ul>
<p><u>Economic empowerment</u> Increasing women's access to employment and other opportunities for income generation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Employment of women in civil works</li> <li>• Roadside vending stalls for women entrepreneurs</li> </ul>
<p><u>Capacity building</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Capacity building for women community members on skill sets needed for economic participation</li> <li>• Capacity building for government personnel on gender</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Awareness raising on health and safe migration, road safety</li> <li>• Training for women on livelihood skills, entrepreneurship, financial literacy, business development, legal/property rights, and solar panel maintenance</li> <li>• Gender training for government personnel</li> <li>• Raising awareness on road safety</li> </ul>
<p><u>Participation in decision-making</u> Women's involvement in project consultation activities</p>	<p>Inclusion of women's input in selection of access roads for upgrading</p>
<p><u>Knowledge management</u> Deepening the understanding of issues relevant to project beneficiaries</p>	<p>Gender integrated in surveys of passengers, drivers, and roadside communities</p>
<p><u>Improvement in policies, programs, and systems</u> Integrating gender lens in project monitoring system</p>	<p>Collection, monitoring, and reporting of project-related baseline data and output using sex-disaggregated data</p>

Source: Asian Development Bank. See for example, [Tajikistan: Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Corridors 2, 3, and 5 \(Obigarm-Nurobod\) Road Project](#).

<sup>4</sup> International Transport Forum. 2018. *Women's Safety and Security: A Public Transport Priority*. OECD Publishing: Paris. 10 August 2020.

<sup>5</sup> Agency on Statistics under the President of Republic of Tajikistan. 2018. *Labor Market in the Republic of Tajikistan*. Dushanbe.



## Sectoral situation:

Women's representation in the power sector <sup>6</sup>

- Women make up only 1 in 10 employees of the national power company Open Stock Holding Power Company Barqi Tojik. Women also occupy only 11% of managerial positions in the company.
- Women earn only 79% of the average salary that men receive in Barqi Tojik.

## Access to Electricity (%)

Geographical location	2018
Rural	99
Urban	99
Renewable energy consumption (% of total final energy consumption)	45


Sources: UNDP. 2019b. *Human Development Report 2019*. New York. Accessed on 28 July 2020; World Bank. 2020. *Access to Electricity (% of population) – Tajikistan*. Accessed on 6 August 2020.

<sup>6</sup> Kurbanova, B. 2019a. Poverty, Social, and Gender Analysis Report. Unpublished report. ADB: Manila.; Kurbanova, B. 2019b. SC112353 Taj: Gender Assessment for the Electricity Sector. Unpublished report. ADB: Manila.

## Projects on Energy

Gender Design Features of ADB Projects	Gender Equality Targets <sup>a</sup>
<p><u>Capacity building</u> Capacity building for women in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) and Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET)</p>	<p>Training of female STEM graduates and/or graduating students for technical work in the generation, transmission, and distribution companies</p>
<p><u>Participation in decision-making</u> Involvement of women in decision-making structures and mechanisms</p>	<p>Formation of gender working group in distribution company</p>
<p><u>Knowledge management</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct of sectoral gender assessment</li> <li>• Production of knowledge products to improve understanding of STEM and TVET</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gender analysis of utility companies and STEM and TVET course offerings</li> <li>• Knowledge products to raise female students' awareness on STEM and TVET-related courses</li> <li>• Knowledge products on advanced metering infrastructure (AMI) operations to enhance understanding of female applicants on AMI</li> </ul>
<p><u>Improvement in policies, programs, and systems</u> Gender integration in project monitoring systems</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Corporate strategy reforms to increase women representation in technical and managerial positions generation, transmission, and distribution companies</li> <li>• Collection, monitoring, and reporting of project-related baseline data and output using sex-disaggregated data</li> </ul>

<sup>a</sup> Project targets are not yet due for implementation because the project has been approved only in December 2020. Source: Asian Development Bank. See for example, Tajikistan: Power Sector Development Program.



**Women in energy.** Increasing women's representation in the energy sector is a priority concern for ADB projects in Tajikistan (photo by Project Implementation Unit of Nurek 500 kV Switchyard Reconstruction Project).





## Education



### Sectoral situation:

- Number of professional technical educational institutions, 2018: 61<sup>7</sup>
- Female graduates of professional technical educational institutions, 2018: 25%<sup>8</sup>
- Percentage of female students in TVET institutions, 2020: 65%<sup>9</sup>

### Student Enrollment (%)

Educational Level <sup>a</sup>	2016		2020	
	Female	Male	Female	Male
Primary Education	48.3	51.7	48.5	51.5
Secondary Education	48.1	51.9	48.4	51.6
Higher Education	45.6	54.4	46.5	53.5

Sources: Agency on Statistics Under President of the Republic of Tajikistan. 2021. *Time Series of Gender Indicators to the Strategy of Enhancing the Role of Women in Tajikistan*. Accessed on 12 January 2021; Agency on Statistics under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan. 2020. *Women and Men of the Republic of Tajikistan*. Dushanbe.

<sup>7</sup> Agency on Statistics under the President of Tajikistan. n.d. *Professional Technical Educational Institutions, 2000-2018*. Accessed on 10 August 2020.

<sup>8</sup> Footnote 7.

<sup>9</sup> Agency on Statistics under the President of Republic of Tajikistan. 2020. *Education in the Republic of Tajikistan*. Dushanbe.





**Inclusive development.** Children with hearing and speech impairment in Kistakuz Village in Sogd Region participate in sewing workshop in boarding school as part of ADB support in education (photo by Nozim Kalandarov/ADB).

## Projects on Education

Gender Design Features of ADB Projects	Gender Equality Targets and Achievements
<p><u>Access to infrastructure and other services</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Providing women’s access to EWCD-friendly facilities</li> <li>• Providing financial support to female students</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Construction of facilities with gender design features such as separate dormitories and toilets for women</li> <li>• Financial support to female students in non-traditional courses</li> </ul>
<p><u>Economic empowerment</u></p> <p>Increasing women’s employment in non-traditional occupations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Employment of female graduates in non-traditional occupations</li> <li>• Job placements for women who benefit from skills training</li> </ul>
<p><u>Capacity building</u></p> <p>Capacity building for women in STEM and TVET, on gender, educational management, and leadership roles</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training on gender and modern educational management approaches for government staff, local women’s committees, industry associations</li> <li>• Integration of gender in competency-based training curriculum and learning materials</li> <li>• Participation of female teachers in competency-based training</li> <li>• Women’s enrollment in non-traditional courses</li> <li>• Raising awareness on non-traditional occupations for women</li> <li>• Issuance of certification for female and male graduates of TVET courses<sup>a</sup></li> </ul>
<p><u>Participation in decision-making</u></p> <p>Engagement of women in curriculum development and competency assessment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inclusion of women in membership of expert groups from related ministries and departments</li> <li>• Participation of women teachers and masters in industry advisory committees</li> </ul>
<p><u>Improvement in policies, programs, and systems</u></p> <p>Gender integration in project monitoring systems</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collection of sex-disaggregated data on enrollment of students and employment of graduates</li> <li>• Collection, monitoring, and reporting of project-related baseline data and output using sex-disaggregated data</li> </ul>

<sup>a</sup> Project target not yet due for implementation

Source: Asian Development Bank. See for example, Tajikistan: Strengthening Technical and Vocational Education and Training.





## Health Indicators, 2014 and 2017

	2014	2019
Life expectancy at birth, female (years)	72	77
Life expectancy at birth, male (years)	68	74
	2014	2017
Mortality rate, under 5 years old, female (per 1,000 live births)	29.4	27.3
Mortality rate, under 5 years old, male (per 1,000 live births)	37.6	35.0
Maternal mortality ratio (per 100,000 live births)	19.0	17.0
Births attended by skilled health staff (% of total)	90.3	94.8
Percentage of women who make family planning decisions alone or jointly with their husbands or partners	-	83.0

Sources: Agency on Statistics under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan. 2020. *Women and Men of the Republic of Tajikistan*. Dushanbe; United Nations Foundation. 2020. *Tajikistan FP2020 Core Indicator Summary Sheet: 2018-2019 Annual Progress Report*. Washington, DC. Accessed on 31 July 2020; World Bank. 2020c. *World Bank Open Data – Tajikistan*. Accessed on 6 January 2021.

## Projects on Health

Gender Design Features of ADB Projects	Gender Equality Targets and Achievements
<a href="#">Access to infrastructure and other services</a> Enhancing availability of healthcare facilities and services	Installation of mother-, women-, children-, and disability-friendly facilities in district health centers and hospitals <sup>a</sup>
<a href="#">Capacity building</a> Enhancing knowledge and skills of healthcare workers and other personnel in the health ministry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training of doctors, nurses, midwives, and other health workers on gender-sensitive referral protocols, and maternal and child health (MCH) integrated services<sup>a</sup></li> <li>• Training of staff of the health ministry on gender mainstreaming</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Knowledge management</a> Conduct of behavior change campaign on MCH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Production and distribution of gender-sensitive knowledge products on gender, maternal and healthcare, early child development</li> <li>• Conducting technical studies to help address of maternal and child health related issues</li> <li>• Conducting satisfaction surveys on access to MCH facilities and services<sup>a</sup></li> <li>• Surveys on the youth and adult knowledge, and attitudes on MCH</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Improvement in policies, programs, and systems</a> Gender integration in project monitoring systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sex-disaggregated collection, monitoring, and reporting of project-related baseline data and output</li> <li>• Adoption of gender-sensitive referral protocols<sup>a</sup></li> </ul>

<sup>a</sup> Project target not yet due for implementation

Source: Asian Development Bank. See for example, Tajikistan: Maternal and Child Health Integrated Care Project. Manila.



## Access to Drinking Water and Sanitation in Households (%)

	2015	2020
Proportion of population using safely managed drinking water services <sup>a</sup>	51.9	55.2
Proportion of population using at least basic drinking water services <sup>b</sup>	76.2	81.9
Proportion of population using at least basic sanitation services	95.3	96.8

<sup>a</sup> Safely managed drinking water: Improved source accessible on premises, available when needed and free of contamination

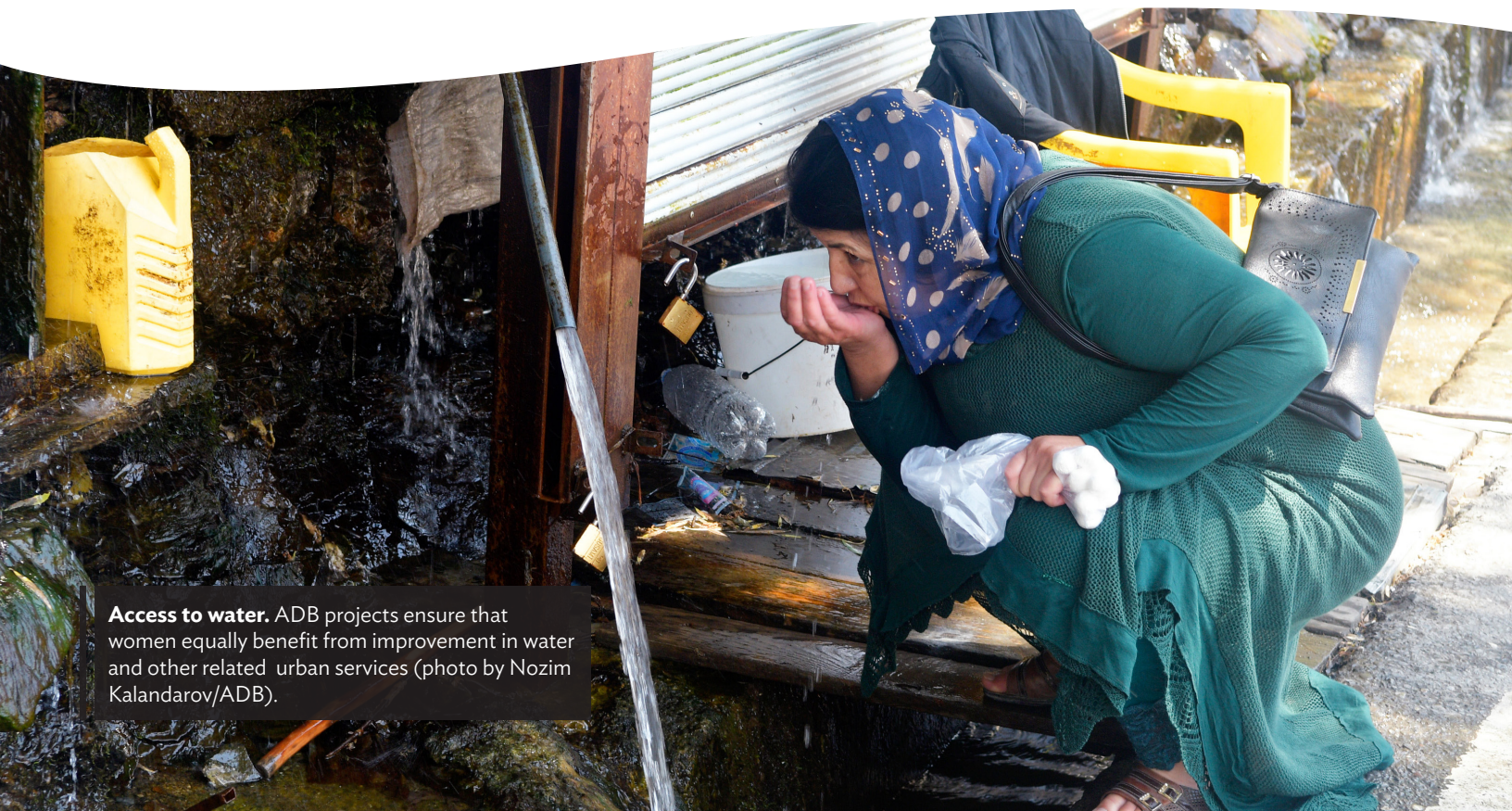
<sup>b</sup> Basic drinking water: Improved source within 30 minutes round trip collection time

Sources: UNICEF. n.d. *Country Profiles: Tajikistan*. Accessed on 10 February 2022.; UNICEF. 2021. *Drinking Water*. Accessed on 7 February 2022.

## Water and Sanitation in Schools, 2019 (%)

	National	Urban	Rural
Basic water service (improved and available)	79.0	93.0	73.0
Basic sanitation service (improved, usable, and single-sex)	47.0	58.0	43.0
Basic hygiene service (facility with water and soap)	26.0	41.0	20.0

Source: UNICEF. 2020. *WASH in Schools*. Accessed on 10 February 2022.



**Access to water.** ADB projects ensure that women equally benefit from improvement in water and other related urban services (photo by Nozim Kalandarov/ADB).



## Projects on Water and Other Urban Infrastructure

Gender Design Features of ADB Projects	Gender Equality Targets and Achievements <sup>a</sup>
<p><u>Access to infrastructure and other services</u> Improvement of access to safe water</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water supply connections meeting international standards for safe water</li> <li>• Reducing reported cases of waterborne diseases</li> <li>• Women benefitting from new water supply connections and rehabilitated sewerage connections</li> </ul>
<p><u>Economic empowerment</u> Increasing women's access to employment and other economic opportunities</p>	<p>Setting up of women's vending stalls in project construction sites</p>
<p><u>Capacity building</u> Capacity building for women on technical skills and management</p>	<p>Enhancement of women staff's skills and knowledge on project planning, operations, and maintenance systems</p>
<p><u>Participation in decision-making</u> Strengthening women's participation in decision-making through consultations</p>	<p>Participation of women in consultations related to land acquisition, resettlement, and construction activities</p>
<p><u>Knowledge management</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conducting behavior change campaign on water conservation and smart metering</li> <li>• Conducting studies on gender and access to water</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Satisfaction survey on cost, availability, and quality of water services</li> <li>• Water conservation awareness in schools and health facilities</li> <li>• Time use survey in relation to women's time poverty and access to water</li> </ul>
<p><u>Improvement in policies, programs, and systems</u> Gender integration in project monitoring systems</p>	<p>Sex-disaggregated data and gender indicators integrated in monitoring and information system and in reporting of project results</p>

<sup>a</sup> Project targets are due for implementation between Q4 2021 to 2025, except for achievements related to improvement in policies, programs, and systems.

Source: Asian Development Bank. See for example, *Tajikistan: Dushanbe Water Supply and Sanitation Project*. Manila.

## **Tajikistan — Edging Its Way to Gender Equality**

*A Quick Reference on Gender Indicators in ADB Priority Sectors*

Development initiatives impact women and men differently. This quick reference on gender indicators in ADB priority areas provides a glimpse of the gender situation in Tajikistan through relevant socioeconomic indicators and gender entry points for ADB projects in the country.

### **About the Asian Development Bank**

ADB is committed to achieving a prosperous, inclusive, resilient, and sustainable Asia and the Pacific, while sustaining its efforts to eradicate extreme poverty. Established in 1966, it is owned by 68 members —49 from the region. Its main instruments for helping its developing member countries are policy dialogue, loans, equity investments, guarantees, grants, and technical assistance.



**ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK**

6 ADB Avenue, Mandaluyong City

1550 Metro Manila, Philippines

[www.adb.org](http://www.adb.org)