

Migration and Remittances in Tajikistan and other CA countries in the Time of Pandemic



Dr. Ismatulloev Ismatullo Ubaydovich, Panelist (CA), Regional Cooperation and Integration Policy Open Dialogue, 4 August 2020

Tajikistan: Number of Tajik Migrants in Russia

(based on official statistics of TJ)

Source: Migration Service, MOLME)

Year	Total	Women
2015	551 728	64 591
2016	517 308	81 851
2017	487 757	68 036
2018	484 176	64 512
2019	530 883	77 013

Impact of Covid-19 into Migration and Remittances, 2020

- Migrants are in lockdown...here (around 20-25%) and there (around 75-80%)...
- Declining amount of remittances...
- More real consequences of the pandemic will be felt a little later....starting from September-October...
- Number of the Banned Migrants in Tajikistan: around 267.324 (as of Dec., 2019)
- Target Group inside of the country: 100.000 (in lockdown) +267.000 (banned) =367.000 migrants (plus families)

Migration and Remittances in CA: **Future Implications**

- **Central Asia:** Population: 72 mln, estimated number of migrants in RF: around 3 mln. With remittances in amount of around 7 bln. (before the pandemic)
- **Remittances in Tajikistan:** 2018 – 2.3 billion, 2019 – 2.7 billion, first half of 2020 – 900 mln. (less for 30-40%)
- Impacts of the declining of remittances into families of migrants: **not enough money for education, healthcare, nutrition and other immediate needs;**

Policy Recommendations

- Provision of emergency assistance to vulnerable migrants in the countries of destination;
- Reintegration of Migrants unable to migrate + migrants deported, banned and returned;
- Health assessment and pandemic preparedness are mainstreamed in labour migration processes;
- Encourage migrants and their families to use remittances more effectively;

Thank you for your attention!