



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

TAJIKISTAN

BEFORE & AFTER Cleaner Water, Healthier Lives

Water supply system improves community life

In the villages of Madad, Stakhnov, Urtakengash, Geologorazvedka and Yangiobod in the township of Somoniyon (pop. 3,000) of Rudaki District, the gradual breakdown and ultimate failure of the Soviet-era water supply system forced residents to rely on open irrigation canals for drinking water. Although residents boiled the water before use, many of them, especially young children, suffered from high incidences of gastro-enteritic diseases.

In October 2008, with technical and financial assistance (\$9,500) from USAID's

Local Governance and Citizen

Participation project, the local government began renovating the dilapidated water system in the villages. New high-capacity pumps were installed, wells cleaned up, and leaking pipes repaired. Additionally, the USAID project trained personnel from the municipal utility company how to maintain and repair the water system in the future. The USAID project also worked with local officials to inform residents through citizen participation activities and conducted public education on water conservation methods and health and hygiene to ensure the sustainability and positive impacts of the project.

The official opening ceremony on April 28, 2008, attended by USAID officials, local government representatives, and village residents, marked the beginning of better access to clean, safe drinking water and greatly improved sanitation and health in Somoniyon.



BEFORE After retrieving water from an irrigation canal, a resident boils water in a large container to eliminate water-borne contaminants.



AFTER Village residents retrieve clean, potable water from accessible points, thereby cutting time to retrieve water and ensuring healthier lives.