Russia Education Aid for Development (READ)
[Tajikistan]

Moscow, Russian Federation
September 30 - October 2, 2009
Where we are

**Supply side Investments in Quality Education:**
- Reforming the education administration system (structure, processes, incentives)
- Reforming the education financing system
- Improvement in national education standards and curriculum
- Publication of textbooks and teaching materials
- Training and advanced training of teachers in general education schools
- Capacity building in schools and the educational system overall

**Demand side Investments in Quality Education:**
- Putting in place support and incentive frameworks for children and their families in order to improve education coverage and school attendance
- Mobilization of PTAs
Where we are (Continued)

Assessment of education quality:

- Establish a Department for the Assessment of Student Proficiency (ASP), and build up its capacity
- Conduct a pilot ASP
- Establish a National Testing Center (NTC)
What we want to achieve in 5 years

An adequately equipped and fully functional National Testing Center that administers:

- Impartial and transparent exams for enrolling in institutions of higher education
- Standardized national assessments of student proficiency for general education schools
What we want to achieve in 10 years

- An established, sustainable system of free and fair nationwide exams for all citizens of the country that wish to enroll in institutions of higher education

- Setting up a system for assessing student proficiency at various levels of education

- Participation in international proficiency assessment programs (TIMSS, PISA)

- Setting up a system and framework for modernizing national standards, the curicullum, textbooks and the training/retraining of teachers based on the results of (national and international) assessments of student profficiency
Problems

- Funding
- Capacity
- Resistance (Behavioral)
- Corruption
- Low proficiency level of students and prospective students applying for admission to a university
Establishing a NTC:

- Key principles that must be put in place from the very beginning
- Making tests secure

Participation in international assessments:

- Is it advisable to push a country with low-quality education to participate in international assessments?