

List of Research Projects: Tajikistan.

The following is a list of research projects ongoing, and proposed by SWORDE-Teppa and partners in Tajikistan.

- 1. Vector control v human behaviour.**
SWORDE volunteers have carried out a pilot study in the Kurgan-Tyube area of Tajikistan using a simple questionnaire. The project is designed to assess what aspects of human behaviour affect the efficiency of vector-borne disease control.
- 2. Capacity training of Tajik MoH personnel in vector-borne disease control.**
SWORDE has been consulting with the Tajik Ministry of Health in the training of its personnel in vector control. Preliminary data has been obtained in the planning of this project. The researcher will be involved in designing materials, working with the MoH and conducting seminars in vector control.
- 3. Monitoring and evaluation of vector control methods in Tajikistan.**
SWORDE has designed a questionnaire to assess the vector control methods, if any, in Tajikistan. Evidence will be collected from various sources to determine what methods of control are successful for different diseases. If methods of control have been used, recommendations will be offered to the interested parties.
- 4. Monitoring and assessment of malaria control methods in Tajikistan.**
SWORDE personnel have been involved in the evaluation of methods of malaria control in Tajikistan. Further examination of results and further assessments are required to evaluate the various methods, their effectiveness and future usage.
- 5. Free ITN's v selling ITN's in Tajikistan.**
SWORDE personnel have had some experience in providing free ITNs in Tajikistan, as well as marketing and selling of nets. The jury is still out as which method of supply is most suited to Tajikistan. Human needs and market research will be employed to assess these opposing arguments.
- 6. Evaluation of rabies control in Tajikistan.**
Rabies is a major problem in Tajikistan. This research aims to assess the reasons for rabies, especially in the inner city, what control methods, if any, are employed, problems and design control campaign.
- 7. Evaluation of the control of dysentery and diarrhoea in Tajikistan.**
The most common cause of death in infants and children in Tajikistan is in these related diseases. This research aims to assess the reasons for this, what the problems may be and design control campaign.
- 8. Child health v vector-borne diseases in Tajikistan.**
Working with the MoH, this research aims to evaluate vector-borne diseases in Tajikistan, take age group data, pinpoint problem areas and recommend action.
- 9. Collection and identification of Anopheles mosquitoes in selected study sites.**
To determine species and breeding sites and recommend control methods.
- 10. Collection and identification of other medically important arthropods in selected study sites.**
To determine species, correlate related diseases and form a database.
- 11. Assessment of Leishmaniasis in Tajikistan and control methods employed.**

This disease is focused in the drier south of the country. There is little if any data and no control measures. This research aims to bring light into this forgotten subject.

12. Assessment of Crimea-Congo Haemorrhagic Fever in Tajikistan and control methods employed.

Tajikistan has summer outbreaks of this disease. There is no control strategy or studies employed. This research aims to gather what information there is and design control strategies.

13. Correlation of *Plasmodium falciparum* malaria cases and vector breeding sites.

P. falciparum malaria has increased four fold in recent years and in some areas of Tajikistan as much as 40% + are attributed to *P. falciparum*. This research aims to track down the source of the malaria and possible vectors and their breeding sites.

14. Environmental assessment of the City of Kurgan-Tyube, problem areas and Disease Correlation.

The city of Kurgan-Tyube has many vector-borne and or environmentally caused diseases. The research aims to map the city, its problem (hot spots), correlate disease incidence and form recommendations.

15. Community health in Tajikistan.

Assessment of health education messages and design of media campaign regarding the control of vector-borne diseases. Education is the key to vector-borne disease control. The community needs to be aware of and understand how to protect itself from these diseases. Many campaigns have been employed in the past, with varying degrees of impact. We aim to assess these campaigns and design more effective methods of community awareness.

16. Medicinal plants and the natural control of vector-borne disease in Tajikistan.

There is much evidence of local plants being used as insect repellents, etc. The project wishes to collect data and anecdotal evidence in this regard. This will then be assessed to determine recommendations for the local community. This essential in poorer areas, where no measures of control are employed.

17. Global warming and its possible effects on disease prevalence in Tajikistan.

Diseases such as malaria have increased in recent years and are moving steadily north in their range. This project will assess the impact of global warming and its knock-on effects to neighbouring countries.

18. Entomological Studies in Kurgan-Tyube.

Assessing the fauna and flora diversity within the city area and creating a data base throughout the year.

19. Entomological Studies in the Sarband Mountains.

Assessing fauna and flora in the Sarband mountains, an arid hot region of Tajikistan and creating a data base throughout the year.

20. Sari Corso Sustainable Conservation Park.

Working with former hunters in this remote mountainous region of Tajikistan in assessing the flora and fauna of this region with a view for future conservation and sustainable tourism.

21. Other studies to be developed.

22. YOUR CHOICE of studies to be hosted by SWORDE-Teppa.