



# USAID | RUSSIA

FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

## COUNTRY PROFILE

FEBRUARY 2008



*Young Russian students participate in a march to raise awareness about social problems in orphanages through USAID/Russia's Community Support for Orphans Project.*

### RUSSIA SNAPSHOT

Date of Independence:  
August 24, 1991  
Capital: Moscow  
Population: 141.4 million  
GDP per person: \$12,200

**For more information,**  
see [www.usaid.gov](http://www.usaid.gov)  
**Keyword: Russia**

### OVERVIEW

USAID's goal is to help Russia transition to a stable, healthy, democratic market economy at home, and to become a strong, reliable partner. As Russia exerts increased influence on the world economy,



political alignments, and regional conflicts, USAID assistance is focused on critical issues of governance, civil society and health, through local partnerships that will help Russia solve problems at home while encouraging it to become an important partner on critical global issues.

USAID works with Russian federal authorities to improve banking systems and anti-money laundering techniques, strengthening the global war on terrorism and stability in the troubled North Caucasus region through local and regional community development projects.

### PROGRAMS

#### IMPROVING THE HEALTH AND WELFARE OF ALL

U.S.-Russian cooperation in social services focuses on HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and other infectious diseases. USAID and its Russian partners are making a substantial effort to promote child welfare and maternal health. These programs improve the quality of primary health care, particularly services for women and infants; help to improve deinstitutionalization and provide family-based care for orphans and street children; and reduce the rapid growth of HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis (especially drug-resistant tuberculosis), and other infectious diseases. USAID's highly successful range of partnerships increase the use of best practices in health care and disseminate and replicate health care models developed specifically for Russia over the past decade.

#### BUILDING ACTIVE CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

USAID works with NGO coalitions to improve health care, public housing, and education policy. It supports local community development, especially in the Russian Far East (RFE), and advocacy groups and business associations. USAID-funded community service-learning projects increase youth civic participation in five RFE regions, and civil society organizations combat corruption and help increase citizen input into municipal social programs.



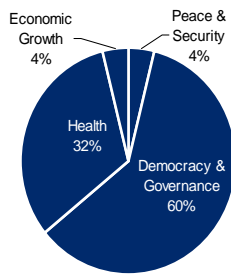
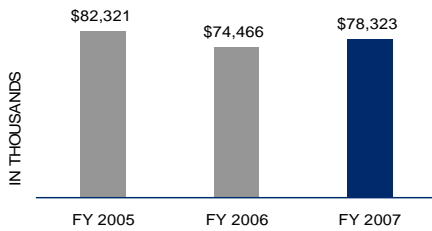
# USAID | RUSSIA

FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

## COUNTRY PROFILE CONTINUED

### USAID ASSISTANCE TO RUSSIA

Percent of FY 2007 Budget for Each Area



Democracy & Governance: \$47,257,000  
 Health: \$25,162,000  
 Economic Growth: \$2,963,000  
 Peace & Security: \$2,941,000

A significant number of USAID programs focus on the transition to a more participatory democratic society. USAID supports civil society with grants to Russian NGOs working on advocacy, social service delivery, and policy reform. USAID assists Russians working with independent media outlets in radio, print, and television to provide high-quality, socially-relevant material. Building on successful past collaboration, USAID continues to strengthen the judiciary through exchanges of judges and support to the bar association and legal clinics. USAID supports groups working for increased access to, and participation in, local government. It encourages exchanges of information and experience among American and Russian political parties and supports efforts to strengthen the political process.

### PROMOTING JUST AND DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE

USAID programs in this area seek to raise the level of public policy debate, support independent media, increase electoral transparency and the representation and responsiveness of political parties, and support the growth of responsive, accountable political leadership.

### SUPPORTING GREATER PEACE AND SECURITY

USAID partners in the North Caucasus with international donors, foreign and local NGOs, and local authorities to support community development projects that help citizens and local governments work together. It uses approaches that lessen tensions, improve dialogue, and reconcile differences while encouraging youth employment, strengthened civil society and improved government services.

Regional and local USAID programs increase citizen participation in economic and political decision-making, strengthen electoral processes, and help citizens solve social problems in their communities. The focus is on citizen-government interaction and solving local issues such as housing - a national priority. In the RFE, projects help local authorities and community leaders form public-private partnerships on economic and service delivery and long-term growth.

### STRENGTHENING FREE MARKET MECHANISMS

USAID's successful economic development assistance in Russia ended in 2007. Russian think tanks carry forward USAID's legacy, conducting research on fiscal, banking and trade issues, and advising Russian economic policy-makers on these and other subjects.

### CONTACT INFORMATION

Leon "Skip" Waskin  
 Mission Director  
 USAID/Russia  
 Novinsky Bulvar 19/23  
 121099 Moscow  
 Russian Federation  
 Tel: +011-7-495-728-5000

Mailing address:  
 PSC 77 USAID Russia  
 APO AE 09721

Judith Robinson  
 Russia Desk Officer  
 Tel: 202-712-5399  
 Email: jrobinson@usaid.gov