

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Uzbekistan
Program Title:	Improved Quality of and Access to Basic Education
Pillar:	Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade
Strategic Objective:	122-0340
Status:	Continuing
Planned FY 2006 Obligation:	\$250,000 FSA
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$185,000 FSA
Proposed FY 2007 Obligation:	\$470,000 FSA
Year of Initial Obligation:	2004
Estimated Year of Final Obligation:	2007

Summary: USAID's Basic Education Program is aimed at broadening access to quality education, by focusing on in-service teacher training, management capacity, efficiency in finance, as well as parent and community participation. USAID also promotes healthy lifestyles and tolerance through activities in school sports and health education for Uzbek youth in two regions.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2006 Program:

Achieve Equitable Access to Quality Basic Education (\$250,000 FSA, \$185,000 FSA carryover). Funding in FY 2006 will be used primarily for program management needs and assessment of future directions. This is due to the Government of Uzbekistan's political disengagement from USAID-supported programming in the sector. USAID will explore options for continuing training in interactive methodology, and rolling out the newly redesigned modules to teachers and administrators in target areas. The modules are based on best international teaching practices and include both traditional instruction and digital materials, such as PowerPoint presentations and digital video. USAID will also seek to continue assistance in streamlining education finance through the pilot activity in per capita financing, which was launched in Akkurgan district in 2005. Principal contractors/grantees: Academy for Educational Development (prime), Ziyu Center (sub), Abt Associates (sub), and Save the Children/U.S. (sub). Training and technical assistance to schools on developing sustainable sports networks, along with sports and health promotion activities for children will continue to the extent possible, given the limitations on school-level work. Principal contractor/grantee: Abt Associates (prime).

FY 2007 Program:

Achieve Equitable Access to Quality Basic Education (\$470,000 FSA). USAID may fund small-scale initiatives tackling narrowly-defined issues in the basic education sector. Options include continuing the education finance pilot effort launched in 2005, institutionalizing the interactive teaching modules developed during the current program with in-service or pre-service teacher training institutions, and providing assistance at the community level, potentially targeting children with special needs. Although the impact of such assistance may be limited, USAID believes that continued engagement at this level of funding would improve sustainability prospects for the investments made during the initial 4.5 years of the program. Principal contractor/grantee: to be determined (TBD) (prime).

Performance and Results: Progress in 2005 met USAID expectations, and targets were achieved or exceeded for all but one indicator. The target for the number of teachers trained was not met by the end of FY 2005, as the newly re-designed teacher training modules could only be pilot tested during the summer, and were first offered in late August/early September. While 180 teachers completed the standard 40-hour course, another 149 teachers were exposed to the modules. Training was provided to 240 school administrators and district education officials (32% above the target) in Akkurgan, the education finance pilot site. USAID developed a strong collaborative relationship with the Central Teacher Training Institute (CTTI), the prime in-service training body for teachers and school directors. In particular, CTTI trainers were involved in the design of the new training modules and participated on training teams delivering the training to the first groups of teachers in late 2005. The Basic Education Program enjoys the support of educators, parents, and other stakeholders in all target areas. Thirty-

seven new community groups have been created to support quality improvements and address access issues at the local level. At 29 schools, community groups received small grants for infrastructure repairs. The average community contributions were 36% of the total project value. In education finance reform, collaboration has been successful with the Ministry of Public Education and Ministry of Finance; both fully support the introduction of the new per capita-based financing formula. In addition, USAID supported the institutionalization of its after-school sports activities for children in Ferghana and Andijan regions, by focusing efforts in 2005 on developing local capacity for promoting healthy lifestyles among youth through sports.

By program's end, teacher training and capacity building will raise the quality of teaching, as modern methodologies become embedded in the country's teacher education cycles. Children in target sites will study in better physical environments, and better financing mechanisms will increase the efficiency with which schools are able to provide educational services. USAID efforts complement Asian Development Bank loans in basic education, which will support computerized distance learning for teachers, rehabilitation of infrastructure, provision of equipment to schools, and textbook publishing. The program will also complement the new World Bank loan project, its first in this sphere in Uzbekistan, particularly in the teacher training and education finance components.

US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Uzbekistan

122-0340 Improved Quality of and Access to Basic Education	FSA
Through September 30, 2004	
Obligations	160
Expenditures	30
Unliquidated	130
Fiscal Year 2005	
Obligations	430
Expenditures	0
Through September 30, 2005	
Obligations	590
Expenditures	30
Unliquidated	560
Prior Year Unobligated Funds	
Obligations	185
Planned Fiscal Year 2006 NOA	
Obligations	250
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2006	
Obligations	435
Proposed Fiscal Year 2007 NOA	
Obligations	470
Future Obligations	430
Est. Total Cost	1,925