

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Europe Regional
Program Title:	Social Sector Reform
Pillar:	Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade
Strategic Objective:	180-0340
Status:	Program Support Objective
Planned FY 2006 Obligation:	\$1,036,000 AEEB
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$1,822,000 AEEB
Proposed FY 2007 Obligation:	\$871,000 AEEB
Year of Initial Obligation:	2001
Estimated Year of Final Obligation:	2010

Summary: Continued stagnation and deterioration in key areas of human capital and social services threaten to undermine the sustainability of economic and democratic transition in certain parts of Europe. Therefore, USAID is placing increased attention on social sector issues through ongoing analytical work, technical assistance, and dissemination of best practices. These are intended to promote programs to protect vulnerable groups, especially through youth and anti-trafficking activities; improve labor market functioning; encourage education system reform, especially at the primary and secondary levels; and inform strategic approaches taken by USAID Missions to mitigate adverse social conditions and trends.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2006 Program:

Improve Quality of Workforce through Vocational/Technical Education: (\$636,000 AEEB, \$119,464 AEEB carryover, \$572,536 AEEB prior year recoveries). USAID will work with U.S experts and experts within the region to carry out critical strategic analysis on social sector topics in Southeast Europe. A primary focus will be on ways to reduce poverty and vulnerability, especially via workforce improvement and increased employment. A workforce competitiveness project will be carried out in Kosovo, Montenegro, and Albania. USAID will continue to work in collaboration with U.S. and regional experts and think tanks to more deeply analyze problems initially identified by the social sector hotspots analyses that were recently updated. The output of this analysis will be recommendations regarding critical USAID investment in the social sector as well as specific program ideas for countries to implement. Results of these analyses and the regional think tank workshop will also be used to inform the next steps for establishing networks of think tanks and researchers working on social sector issues. FY 2006 funds will be used to conduct and disseminate this research, provide technical support to USAID Missions, and to fund expert technical staff. Contractors: Aguirre International; Education Development Corporation; to be determined.

Reduce Trafficking In Persons (\$400,000 AEEB, \$830,000 AEEB carryover, \$300,000 AEEB prior year recoveries). Trafficking in persons (TIP) has become a major social, economic and moral problem in Southeast Europe (SEE). President Bush has made a major commitment to reduce TIP. USAID will support a regional program to develop a cross-border referral mechanism designed by and agreed upon by governmental and non-governmental representatives to improve assistance and protection for trafficking victims and cross-border TIP case continuity. Through regional seminars, technical assistance, equipment and training, the activity will strengthen cooperation between and benefit both governmental and non-governmental actors dealing with cross-border trafficking cases in Southeast Europe, as well as the trafficked victims themselves. FY 2006 funds will also be used to provide technical support on developing anti-trafficking programs to USAID Missions in Southeast Europe and to fund expert technical staff. Contractors/grantees: International Center for Migration Policy Development.

FY 2007 Program:

Improve Quality of Workforce through Vocational/Technical Education (\$871,000 AEEB). Analytic work on the social sector in Southeast Europe will continue and will provide strategic guidance and technical assistance to mitigate social sector problems. Funds will continue to be used to support expert technical staff. Contractor: to be determined.

Performance and Results: The results achieved under this objective have improved sustainability of USAID's assistance in Eurasia by increasing attention on the need to halt and eventually reverse the declines in social welfare experienced by citizens in the transition countries. In addition to reducing human suffering and deprivation, strategic assistance in the social sectors increases public support for reform among citizens who have seen deterioration in their access to social services.

A program of assessments, technical consultations, and review of lessons learned and best practices in social transition has permitted USAID to better take account of social constraints in its programs, including how best to promote social transition objectives via stand-alone or synergistic programs. In-depth social sector hotspots analyses of the status of the education, labor, pension, health sectors, and of vulnerable and strategic groups in the region have contributed to better targeted and more effective bilateral programs. The status of vulnerable and strategic groups in the region was also ascertained. An analysis of the status of social services in the region as well as in-depth examination of best practices in social services in Romania and Bosnia&Herzegovina was also conducted. Additional data was gathered for the on-going regional labor market study. A workshop involving regional think tanks resulted in a network and a listserv and laid the basis for greater joint policy work among the participant and future members. This enhances the capacity for local and regional policy analysis and advisory services on social policy in the region.

US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Europe Regional

180-0340 Social Sector Reform	AEEB
Through September 30, 2004	
Obligations	7,939
Expenditures	6,335
Unliquidated	1,604
Fiscal Year 2005	
Obligations	546
Expenditures	1,446
Through September 30, 2005	
Obligations	8,485
Expenditures	7,781
Unliquidated	704
Prior Year Unobligated Funds	
Obligations	1,822
Planned Fiscal Year 2006 NOA	
Obligations	1,036
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2006	
Obligations	2,858
Proposed Fiscal Year 2007 NOA	
Obligations	871
Future Obligations	0
Est. Total Cost	12,214