

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Moldova
Program Title:	Democratic Transition
Pillar:	Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance
Strategic Objective:	117-0230
Status:	Continuing
Planned FY 2006 Obligation:	\$6,793,000 FSA
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$2,340,000 FSA
Proposed FY 2007 Obligation:	\$6,120,000 FSA
Year of Initial Obligation:	2001
Estimated Year of Final Obligation:	2007

Summary: USAID's democracy program in Moldova includes technical and advisory assistance to local and national government, legal reform to promote the rule of law, small grants to support citizen participation and social capital development, and a political activism development program.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2006 Program:

Program Support (\$150,000 FSA, \$489,908 FSA carryover). USAID will provide funds for administrative support, evaluations and assessments, and information technology support.

Strengthen Civil Society (\$1,687,000 FSA). USAID's Citizen Participation Program (CPP) helps citizens improve conditions in their communities through democratic and associative means. During FY 2006, CPP will assist 50 community groups and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to develop, design, manage and complete tangible projects that meet community needs, and provide a springboard from which citizens will become more informed, engaged, and capable of demanding transparency and accountability from their local leaders. USAID is also supporting the Eurasia Foundation, which provides grants to civil society organizations. Principal contractors/grantees: International Research and Exchanges Board (IREX) and the Eurasia Foundation (both prime).

Strengthen Democratic Political Parties (\$1,100,000 FSA, \$1,049,950 FSA carryover, \$430 FSA prior year recoveries). USAID will provide organizational development assistance to all major political parties in Moldova. As part of political party development, assistance will be provided to the Communist Party of Moldova for reforms that will bring it more in line with the principles of Western social democracy. IRI and NDI will provide training to more than 7,500 political activists, both members of major political parties and independent political activists. Implementing partners: International Republican Institute (IRI) and National Democratic Institute (NDI) (both prime).

Strengthen the Justice Sector (\$1,607,587 FSA, \$800,000 FSA prior year recoveries). USAID's Rule of Law (ROL) Program is providing advocacy training and technical assistance in human rights, legal association building, and institutional capacity building. Through the use of five regional legal clinics and the Traveling Lawyer Program, the program will provide over 5,000 consultations on human rights, freedom of speech and association, minority rights, property rights, labor law, family law, and privatization. Principal contractor/grantee: American Bar Association Central European and Eurasian Law Initiative (ABA/CEELI) (prime).

Support Democratic Local Government and Decentralization (\$2,248,413 FSA). USAID's Local Government Reform Project (LGRP) will provide over 1,500 trainings to municipal government professionals to promote transparency, improve local financial management, improve the reliability and quality of municipal services, and increase the capacity of local governments to advocate in their own interest. LGRP will also provide financial assistance to 50 demonstration projects that resolve issues in community strategic plans. Principal contractor/grantee: Urban Institute (prime).

FY 2007 Program:

Program Support (\$500,000 FSA). USAID will provide funds for administrative support, evaluations and assessments, and information technology support.

Strengthen Civil Society (\$2,349,000 FSA). USAID's CPP will continue to mobilize citizens and community groups to address community needs through a collaborative process, identifying and prioritizing local needs and resources, and developing and implementing projects that engage a broad cross-section of the community. Community Exchanges/Connections will provide exchanges and internships in the United States that support professional development and encourage mutual understanding. USAID funds for the Peace Corps Small Projects Assistance program will support community projects in collaboration with Peace Corps volunteers on community projects. Principal contractors/grantees: same as above and Peace Corps.

Strengthen Democratic Political Parties (\$1,700,000 FSA). USAID will support political party reform, reform in the Moldovan Parliament, and open new opportunities for local activists to become involved in local political structures. Principle contractors/grantees are the same as above.

Strengthen the Justice Sector (\$1,571,000 FSA). USAID's ABA/CEELI activity is expected to end by December 2006. A new, follow-on Rule of Law Program will add a greater focus on anti-corruption systems and processes, and judicial reform. USAID's new Anti-Corruption Program will also have a component focused on the justice sector. Principle contractor/grantee: As above and to be determined.

Performance and Results: USAID's LGRP has introduced community strategic planning, improved financial management and municipal services, and increased transparency and citizen participation in 91 communities to date. LGRP communities have completed 42 successful projects to resolve high priority items in their strategic plans, including improvements in public water, natural gas and autonomous heating systems, natural gas supply, autonomous heating systems, and solid waste management.

In its initial year, the backbone of USAID's CPP has been the Community Forum, a series of two-day facilitated workshops bringing community stakeholders together to prioritize issues, and devise a plan to resolve them. Over 200 community forums were conducted involving more than 3,000 participants from 224 communities. CPP field staff identified 804 potential community leaders and 320 viable and eligible community projects. A total of 37 projects have been funded and are underway to date.

NDI assisted the organization of a coalition of centrist parties to compete in the 2005 Parliamentary elections, and provided political parties with training in brand development and message building. IRI conducted campaign strategy and grass-roots political trainings for political parties and independent political activists in Moldova's regions. IRI also provided issue-oriented survey data and training in political skills, and capacity for women and women's groups. IRI and NDI also provided assistance to the "NGO Coalition for Free and Fair Elections." IRI and NDI are jointly assisting the Communist Party in party reform to bring it more in-line with the principles of social democracy and supporting reform in the Moldovan Parliament in cooperation with the Lithuanian and Latvian parliaments.

ABA/CEELI's Rule of Law program provided election law seminars and roundtables for lawyers, media, and Central Election Commission members. On Election Day, the "Election Day Lawyer" project deployed a total of 40 previously trained lawyers to every court of first instance court in Moldova, ready to handle requests for pro bono representation of citizens with complaints of electoral fraud or infringements.

By completion of this objective, Moldova will have achieved Millennium Challenge Account Compact Status and fully implemented the elements of its EU Action Plan that promotes the rule of law, local and regional autonomy, and unfettered political competition. Moldova will have a variety of democratic political parties with nationwide organizations, and the sustainable capacity to hold competitive elections, judged by domestic and international observers to be unequivocally free and fair, in an environment of equal access to independent media and with the active civic involvement of NGOs. Moldova will have transparent, responsive, and mature democratic institutions with the institutional capacity and political will to aggressively confront corruption.

US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Moldova

117-0230 Democratic Transition	FSA
Through September 30, 2004	
Obligations	14,802
Expenditures	8,689
Unliquidated	6,113
Fiscal Year 2005	
Obligations	5,590
Expenditures	5,434
Through September 30, 2005	
Obligations	20,392
Expenditures	14,123
Unliquidated	6,269
Prior Year Unobligated Funds	
Obligations	2,340
Planned Fiscal Year 2006 NOA	
Obligations	6,793
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2006	
Obligations	9,133
Proposed Fiscal Year 2007 NOA	
Obligations	6,120
Future Obligations	0
Est. Total Cost	35,645