

## Data Sheet

<b>USAID Mission:</b>	Bulgaria
<b>Program Title:</b>	Cross-Cutting Programs
<b>Pillar:</b>	Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade
<b>Strategic Objective:</b>	183-0420
<b>Proposed FY 2004 Obligation:</b>	\$3,645,000 AEEB
<b>Prior Year Unobligated:</b>	\$243,000 AEEB
<b>Proposed FY 2005 Obligation:</b>	\$2,875,000 AEEB
<b>Year of Initial Obligation:</b>	1991
<b>Year of Final Obligation:</b>	FY 2007

**Summary:** The Program Support objective includes three categories of initiatives: activities to support the Mission's entire portfolio (the Media and Participant Training programs); special initiatives, namely the Healthcare Reform and Water and Waste Water Training programs; and the Program Development and Support activity.

### Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

#### FY 2004 Program:

Advocacy and Public Awareness through Media (\$200,000 AEEB). In FY 2004, USAID will provide a grant to the local ProMedia NGO that implemented the IREX ProMedia in-country program and is seen as the potential legacy mechanism. This local entity will continue working on advocacy and public awareness activities in the areas of rule of law, decentralization, anti-corruption, increased effectiveness of the legislature, and resolution of ethnic tensions. Over 150 journalists will be trained at the USAID-supported Broadcast Training Center and on-site throughout the country. Implementation of the anti-corruption investigative journalism fellowship program will continue as well as a new television program. Produced by the center, this program exposes corruption at different levels of government. In addition, USAID will support the institutional strengthening of the local ProMedia NGO. Principal grantee: ProMedia.

Participant Training (START) (\$1,300,000 AEEB). During FY 2004, USAID will continue to support U.S.-based, in-country, and third-country training opportunities for Bulgarian officials, NGOs, and entrepreneurs, with increased focus on in-country and third-country trainings. Small grants to individual participants will support initiatives designed as outcomes of the specific training events. The Mission will review alternatives for establishing legacy mechanisms ranging from an alumni association to selected local training providers. USAID will work with the selected institution to enable it to take over and sustain programmatic results after graduation. Principal contractor: World Learning (prime)

Health Finance and Reform (\$1,000,000 AEEB). FY 2004 will be last year of funding for the Bulgaria Health Project. USAID's program will focus on the implementation of new financing mechanisms for the hospitals and on improving the efficiency and effectiveness of inpatient care. Principal contractor: BearingPoint (prime), Barents (prime).

Water and Waste Water Training Center (\$300,000 AEEB). Upon successful completion of the pilot program financed in FY 2003, a comprehensive program for training and certification of operators with all required training materials and equipment will be developed in FY 2004. The program will improve operator capacity and increase service delivery in the water sector. Principal contractor: Delaware Technical and Community College (prime).

Political Parties Assistance (\$145,000 AEEB). USAID will support a political party strengthening program based on the issues identified during local elections campaign in 2003. Implementer: to be determined.

Program Development and Support (\$700,000 AEEB, \$225,000 AEEB carryover). Support for all ongoing Mission activities will continue through funding program staff and related administrative costs. Support will also be provided for program-related audits, studies, assessments, and evaluations of current programs to facilitate progress across all strategic objectives. Principal contractors: to be determined.

Protected Areas Fund (\$75,000 AEEB carryover). Support for the Protected Areas Fund before USAID graduates its Biodiversity Conservation and Economic Growth program will continue in FY 2004.

**FY 2005 Program:**

Advocacy and Public Awareness through Media (\$200,000 AEEB). USAID will continue to support advocacy and public awareness efforts in key areas of reform, while at the same time supporting the Broadcast Training Center to ensure its sustainability. Same implementer as above.

Participant Training (\$1,300,000 AEEB). USAID will extend the provision of U.S.-based, in-country, and third-country training opportunities for Bulgarian officials, NGOs, and entrepreneurs. USAID expects to focus more on building capacity of selected trainers to facilitate a local handover of training activities. Same implementer as above.

Political Parties Assistance (\$275,000 AEEB). This program might continue in FY 2005 to help the political parties with the Parliamentary elections scheduled in the spring of 2005. Implementer: to be determined.

Water and Waste Water Training Center (\$300,000 AEEB). This should be the last year of funding for the center. USAID is considering a final phase that may focus on training and specific activities aiming at ensuring the sustainability of the training center after USAID's graduation. Same implementer as above.

Program Development and Support (\$800,000 AEEB). This activity will continue to be the major support vehicle for program activities, staff, and logistics. These resources may also be used for program-related audits, studies, final assessment and close-out evaluations, as well as for activities in support of selected legacy mechanisms and partner organizations. Same implementer as above.

**Performance and Results:** Program support activities complement all Strategic Objectives within USAID's graduation strategy.

As a direct result of the participant training initiative, Bulgarian leaders and professionals are better equipped with skills and practical knowledge necessary to support the transition processes in the country. At the end of the program, USAID expects to transfer post-presence training activities to a local legacy institution.

At the time of graduation from U.S. assistance, USAID expects to leave behind a viable local NGO working in support of independent media and for increased professionalism of Bulgarian journalists. A pool of highly qualified media experts will actively advocate for reform and the TV Broadcast Training Center will offer sustainable services to private media.

A sustainable training center for training and certification of water and wastewater operators will be established. In the long term, this will lead to increased professional capacity of the water sector employees and thereby improved quality of service delivery in this sector.

Additionally, the Program Development and Support Activity contributes to the full spectrum of USAID programs by ensuring resources and information for their smooth progress.