

**Capital:** Ankara  
**Population:** 69.66 million (2005 est.)  
**GDP Real growth rate:** 8.2% (2004 est.)  
**Unemployment:** 9.3% (plus underemployment of 4.0%) (2004 est.)  
**GDP per capita (PPP):** \$7,400 (2004 est.)  
**Religion:** 99.8% Muslim, 0.2% mostly Christian and Jewish  
**Language:** Turkish (official), Kurdish, Arabic, Armenian, Greek  
**President:** Ahmed Necdet Sezer  
**Prime Minister:** Recep Tayyip Erdogan  
**Ambassador to U.S.:** Osman Faruk Logoglu



**National Interest:** Turkey is a vital strategic partner and NATO ally situated between Eastern Europe, the Middle East, and the former Soviet Union. In the aftermath of September 11, 2001, Turkey has been a critical ally in the global war on terrorism. Turkey's policies and actions affect the resolution of a host of simmering regional conflicts, including Iraq, the Middle East, Cyprus, the Caucasus, and the Balkans.

### OVERVIEW OF USAID FOCUS IN TURKEY

FY 2005 (funded with FY 04 carryover): \$10 million ESF

**Special Initiative (FY 05: \$10 million):** USAID is using \$10 million in FY 2004 carryover Economic Support Funds (ESF) for three activities which seek to assist Turkey in promoting gender equality, reducing and mitigating trafficking-in-persons (TIP), and expanding U.S.-Turkey trade. Nine million dollars was obligated to the World Bank (WB) to co-finance the Conditional Cash Transfer (CCT) program of the WB's Social Risk Mitigation Project. The CCT program is anticipated to increase school attendance for girls, improve prenatal care, and raise child immunization rates. \$600,000 was granted to the International Organization for Migration to reduce and mitigate TIP. USAID is working on an implementing mechanism for a \$0.4 Million U.S.-Turkey business-partnering program to enhance bilateral trade. These grants are being implemented in consultation with the U.S. Embassy in Ankara and Government of Turkey (GOT).

**Special Initiative:** This activity will develop a watershed management plan for Istanbul which would foster an expanding agricultural industry, support population growth, and protect the amount and quality of the city's water. The activity is being implemented by Mississippi State University in close cooperation with the academic community in Istanbul. This \$1 million activity has been fully funded through FY 2000 carryover and FY 2002 Development Assistance funds, and is projected to end March 31, 2006.