

#### **OPEN WORLD MEANS RESULTS**

Some examples

Russian experts from the Federal Center for Animal Health spoke at the **2nd Bird Flu Summit** in Washington, DC, in 2006, and shared their avian flu research findings with the National Institutes of Health.

Residents of Jil, an Azerbaijani village near the Iranian border, can drop off suggestions for local officials in boxes located throughout the community and read the village budget and government notices on the municipal building's information board. Jil Mayor Intigam Akhbarov saw similar public outreach initiatives while visiting Texas in May 2007 on Open World's first exchange from Azerbaijan.

Russian mental health experts who counseled children and families affected by the 2004 Beslan school attack shared experiences and strategies for healing with members of the Amish community in Lancaster County, PA, who had suffered from the 2006 Nickel Mines school shootings. The Russians studied trauma and recovery on their 2007 Open World exchange.

Ukrainian Open World alumnae held a roundtable in June 2007 that focused on practical ways to promote regional development, child welfare, and women's leadership in civil society. The event brought together more than 30 women legislators, regional and city administrators, NGO heads, and entrepreneurs.

Journalists from two Russian TV stations filmed documentaries while visiting Alaska on the Open World Program in July 2007. Aired on prime-time TV in fall 2007, the documentaries brought the Open World experience to millions in the St. Petersburg and Vladivostok metro regions and beyond.

#### **OPEN WORLD PROGRAMS**

#### Accountable Governance

Targets government officials, public policy experts, journalists, and NGO leaders; programming emphasizes transparency and best practices in governance.

#### Rule of Law

Offers judges and others involved in the law an inside look at America's judicial system, highlighting the practices and principles underpinning the rule of law in the United States.

#### Social Issues

Addresses societal needs in the areas of health care, education, and social services.

#### Special-Focus

Provides specialized programming on critical issues like nuclear nonproliferation and human-trafficking prevention.

#### Russian Cultural Leaders

Offers residencies at U.S. cultural institutions to writers, artists, documentarians, musicians, and other cultural leaders.



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# OPEN WORLD LEADERSHIP CENTER AT THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS www.openworld.gov

Bringing the
Emerging Leaders
of
Eurasia to the
United States
Today

#### **WHAT IS OPEN WORLD?**



Open World is an exchange and partnership program that builds U.S.-Eurasian cooperation and mutual understanding. It does so by bringing emerging Eurasian leaders to the United States to work with their American counterparts, and by facilitating ongoing partnerships between both sides through virtual networking and post-visit activities.

The U.S. Congress created Open World in 1999, and many Representatives and Senators meet with delegations and take part in other program activities.

Open World delegations come from Russia (the original focus country), Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Tajikistan, and Ukraine. Participants range from newly elected mayors to veteran journalists, from nonprofit directors to small-business advocates, and from political activists to high-court judges.

Each U.S. visit focuses on a set theme that relates to the delegates' professional or civic work, exposing them to ideas and practices they can adapt to their own situations. Typical activities include watching jury selection, sitting in on newspaper editorial meetings, and observing political candidates on the campaign trail.

More than 13,500 Eurasian leaders have taken part in Open World, most staying with one of the 6,000-plus host families located in the program's 1,700 U.S. host communities throughout the United States.

The Open World Program is managed by the Open World Leadership Center, an independent legislative branch agency.

### THE OPEN WORLD NETWORK







## CONTINUING THE OPEN WORLD EXPERIENCE

ALUMNI PROGRAM The privately funded Alumni Program provides resources and tools that allow for the continuation of partnerships and projects long after the original visit has ended. Newsletters, workshops, and other networking opportunities keep bonds strong between American hosts and their Russian counterparts. The Alumni Program also helps facilitate meetings and partnerships for U.S. hosts visiting Russia and other Open World countries.

DIGITAL MAPS Alumni, hosts, and other members of the Open World community are invited to put themselves on our digital maps. Available through the Digital Directory, the maps dramatically illustrate Open World's international reach, while allowing potential partners and like-minded professionals to find one another. To "put yourself on the map," please register on our Digital Directory at <a href="http://dd.openworld.gov">http://dd.openworld.gov</a>.



**NETWORKING TOOLS** The Digital Directory connects Open World's international network of emerging and established leaders by providing a full range of online networking tools, including contact building, message posting, blogging, photo sharing, and automatic translation. Accessed at <a href="http://dd.openworld.gov">http://dd.openworld.gov</a>, the Digital Directory also serves as a gateway to list serves, grant and project information, and other professional resources.