Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Eurasia Regional
Program Title:	Private Enterprise Development
Pillar:	Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade
Strategic Objective:	110-0130
Status:	Program Support Objective
Planned FY 2006 Obligation:	$376,000 FSA
Prior Year Unobligated:	$655,000 FSA
Proposed FY 2007 Obligation:	$226,000 FSA
Year of Initial Obligation:	1996
Estimated Year of Final Obligation:	2008

Summary: Building on existing bilateral competitiveness, business skills strengthening, and microenterprise activities, assistance under this objective promotes the competitiveness of small- and medium-sized enterprises and microenterprise development in the region.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:
FY 2006 Program:
Improve Private Sector Competitiveness ($376,000 FSA, $271,544 FSA carryover, $383,900 FSA prior year recoveries). The Regional Competitiveness Initiative (RCI) aims to increase the competitiveness of small- and medium-sized enterprises in the region. It builds on, complements, and adds a regional dimension to existing bilateral programs.

The RCI has initiated contacts with industry and agricultural firms throughout the region to identify clusters of businesses that are capable and committed to working together to produce quality products and respond to market demand in the region and beyond. The RCI is currently considering strategic interventions in the region that best complement bilateral programs. The most promising of these activities are in the agricultural and small- and medium-sized enterprise (SME) sectors with a strong emphasis on promoting inter-regional trade. The RCI will also bring businesses together with government and civil society leaders through regional competitiveness councils to facilitate discussions on economic, commercial, and trade policies. Technical assistance activities will focus on participating clusters of industries on the standardization and harmonization of their products for international trade. Contractor: Chemonics and Segura/IP3 (prime).

The program is also providing support to strengthen microenterprsie institutions in the region through a range of technical assistance and grant mechanisms. Working with several countries, the program is strengthening microenterprise laws, regulations, and supervision to accelerate microfinance institutions' access to sources of financing. A grants program is supporting local organizations and activities to develop and test innovative approaches to rural and agricultural finance. Also, "poverty tools" relevant to the region are being developed to measure the degree of poverty of microenterprise clients in the region. Contractors/Grantees: Microfinance Center for Eastern Europe, World Vision, Mercy Corps (primes).

FY 2007 Program:
Improve Private Sector Competitiveness ($226,000). The assistance of selected industry clusters will continue. RCI will work with the groupings of business to better understand the demands of the market, to improve the business environment directly impacting the cluster, to improve the productivity and value up and down the supply chain, and to participate actively in cross-border trade. Contractors: Chemonics and Segura/IP3 (primes).

Performance and Results: The RCI has established a Community of Practice and internet portal to provide information to all countries on competitiveness activities and current practices. A financial sector feasibility study will identify the opportunities for interventions to be undertaken during the coming year in order to expand regional financial sector reform programs into the Eurasia region. Other key results anticipated over the coming year are increased competitiveness and trade of agricultural products,

improved and more efficient customs procedures, establishment of competitiveness councils for important industry clusters, expanded public - private economic and commercial policy discussions, and strengthened microenterprise institutions throughout the region.

US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

110-0130 Private Enterprise Development	ESF	FSA
Through September 30, 2004		
Obligations	15,008	75,829
Expenditures	15,008	74,454
Unliquidated	0	1,375
Fiscal Year 2005		
Obligations	0	393
Expenditures	0	0
Through September 30, 2005		
Obligations	15,008	76,222
Expenditures	15,008	74,454
Unliquidated	0	1,768
Prior Year Unobligated Funds		
Obligations	0	655
Planned Fiscal Year 2006 NOA		
Obligations	0	376
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2006		
Obligations	0	1,031
Proposed Fiscal Year 2007 NOA		
Obligations	0	226
Future Obligations	0	0
Est. Total Cost	15,008	77,479