

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Macedonia
Program Title:	Social Transition
Pillar:	Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade
Strategic Objective:	165-0340
Status:	Continuing
Planned FY 2006 Obligation:	\$7,639,000 AEEB
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$0
Proposed FY 2007 Obligation:	\$5,952,000 AEEB
Year of Initial Obligation:	2001
Estimated Year of Final Obligation:	2010

Summary: The focus of this program is to help mitigate the social impact of transition by improving the quality and access to basic education and preparing Macedonian youth for employment.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2006 Program:

Achieve Equitable Access to Quality Basic Education (\$4,539,000 AEEB). USAID's Roma education program will continue to help approximately 200 pre-school children and 600 primary school students attending Roma education centers improve their language and numeric skills. The program will provide scholarships and mentoring support to 260 freshmen high school as well as 64 university students. The E-Schools project will train 240 primary school teachers in project-based learning through which students develop school projects using Information and Communication Technology (ICT) skills. USAID will design a new project that will focus on the following areas: a) access to and use of ICT in education; b) development and use of digital content in primary schools; c) improvement of the quality of math and science curricula and teaching methodologies; d) improvement of school-based assessment for teachers; e) renovation of schools; and f) improvement of the quality of education in pre-school/kindergarten. Principal grantees: Foundation Open Society Institute Macedonia (prime), Academy for Educational Development (prime), Education Development Center (prime), World Links (sub).

Improve Quality of Workforce through Vocational/Technical Education (\$2,000,000 AEEB). The Secondary Education Activity (SEA) will continue to provide assistance to 50 vocational secondary schools. Secondary teachers will continue to be trained to use modern teaching methods that move away from the rote and theoretical method of instruction. A total of 630 teachers will be trained in new teaching methods and will in turn disseminate the training to 3,200 teachers by the end of academic year 2005/2006. Career centers, virtual firms, and real companies, established in 50 vocational schools, will continue to operate. Students gain practical skills in job search, resume writing, interviewing techniques, and running businesses at these centers. Students who participated in a study tour in the U.S., and who applied lessons learned by organizing vocational student organizations in 13 schools, plan to extend student-oriented activities and expand student organizations in the other vocational schools. An additional 227 primary school directors will receive management training. School board members will learn about their roles and responsibilities in the selection of school directors through workshops organized by the project. Principal grantees: American Institute for Research (prime), International Reading Association (sub).

Increase Capacity of Higher Education to Contribute to Development (\$1,100,000 AEEB). The Creative Teaching and Learning Project will support eight pre-service teacher training institutions. The project aims to train future teachers to use modern teaching methods for students to develop problem-solving and analytical skills. The Higher Education Linkage program between Indiana University and the private multi-ethnic South East European University (SEEU) will provide technical assistance in developing the curriculum and training professors in the business administration and communications science and technology departments. Five masters degree candidates will begin their graduate program in management information systems and computer science in 2006. Principal grantees: Foundation Open Society Institute Macedonia (prime), Indiana University (prime).

FY 2007 Program:

Achieve Equitable Access to Quality Basic Education (\$3,170,526 AEEB). The Macedonia Connects project will increase internet penetration from 4% - 8% to 25% by the end of the project in 2007. The integration of ICT will continue via the E-Schools project with the implementation of the teacher training strategy in 360 primary schools. The 240 trained primary school teachers will disseminate the use of ICT applications in the classroom to 5,232 primary school teachers by the end of the project in 2007. The Roma Education Program will further support a preparatory program for preschoolers, tutoring for primary school students, and a scholarship and mentorship program for secondary and university students. A new education project will begin in October 2006. Principal grantees: Academy for Educational Development (prime), Foundation for Open Society Institute Macedonia (prime).

Improve Quality of Workforce through Vocational/Technical Education (\$2,084,774 AEEB). The secondary education activity will provide technical assistance to institutions that will train participants for the directors' certification program. Workshops in school management and administration will be conducted for school board members. In 2007, 44 real companies, 12 virtual firms, and 50 career centers will be operational in vocational schools. Principal grantee: American Institute for Research (prime).

Increase Capacity of Higher Education to Contribute to Development (\$696,700 AEEB). The Creative Teaching and Learning Project will continue to work on improving the quality of pre-service teacher training. Revisions of teaching methodology curricula in all eight targeted teacher training institutions will be finalized. The Higher Education Linkage program will support six SEEU Fellows who will complete master's degree programs at Indiana University. Lastly, Indiana University will perform an evaluation of its activities. Principal grantees: Foundation for Open Society Institute Macedonia (prime), Indiana University (prime).

Performance and Results: USAID projects trained 6,600 secondary school teachers in project-based learning, interactive methodologies, and ICT skills. All 460 primary and secondary schools have computer labs and Internet connectivity. Over 200 primary and secondary school directors received professional training and are now eligible to take exams for certification. Fifty vocational schools have established career centers, virtual firms, and real companies. These interventions will strengthen linkages between schools and businesses, and will prepare students for employment once they graduate. Three centers were developed in SEEU to train professors in new teaching methods and to teach in English, establish linkages with the private sector, and prepare students for future employment. Teachers trained in interactive teaching methods through SEA are applying their new skills in the classroom. In general, Roma girls showed higher school retention and school success compared with boys.

It is anticipated that by 2010, stronger linkages will have been established between vocational education and the business sector. Equitable access to quality education will be available for all minority and disadvantaged groups. All teachers will acquire ICT skills and the use of ICT will be integrated into the curriculum. New teaching methods will be incorporated in the curriculum to prepare future teachers in pre-school teacher training institutions. Support for pre-service teacher training institutions and education for the Roma is expected to continue through 2010. The secondary education workforce development activity in 50 vocational schools will be completed in 2008. The following program activities will end in September 2007: a) Indiana University linkage program with SEEU; b) ICT interventions and training in all primary schools; and c) the provision of free broadband internet connectivity in selected sites.

US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Macedonia

165-0340 Social Transition	AEEB
Through September 30, 2004	
Obligations	22,316
Expenditures	11,331
Unliquidated	10,985
Fiscal Year 2005	
Obligations	7,275
Expenditures	8,098
Through September 30, 2005	
Obligations	29,591
Expenditures	19,429
Unliquidated	10,162
Prior Year Unobligated Funds	
Obligations	0
Planned Fiscal Year 2006 NOA	
Obligations	7,639
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2006	
Obligations	7,639
Proposed Fiscal Year 2007 NOA	
Obligations	5,952
Future Obligations	0
Est. Total Cost	43,182