

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Turkmenistan
Program Title:	Small and Medium Sized Enterprises
Pillar:	Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade
Strategic Objective:	120-0131
Status:	Continuing
Planned FY 2006 Obligation:	\$680,000 FSA
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$338,000 FSA
Proposed FY 2007 Obligation:	\$700,000 FSA
Year of Initial Obligation:	2001
Estimated Year of Final Obligation:	2007

Summary: USAID's program to improve the business environment for the growth of small and medium enterprises includes training and technical assistance to increase opportunities to obtain business information, knowledge, and skills.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2006 Program:

Improve Private Sector Competitiveness (\$680,000 FSA, \$323,478 FSA carryover). Future work in the area of Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) development will strengthen SME support institutions, such as local associations and the private sector, to impart business knowledge, skills, and information in select regions beyond the capital. Work to foster trade advisory services will continue. USAID will also support implementation of International Financial Reporting Standards by strengthening the capacity of the professional accounting association and adoption of international accounting standards through a certification program. Principal contractors/grantees: to be determined (TBD) (primes).

Improve Quality of Workforce through Vocational/Technical Education (\$14,308 FSA carryover). USAID will improve the quality of business and economics education at the high school level. Principal contractor: TBD (prime).

USAID will continue to provide assistance for business and economics faculty development by organizing short term courses and providing faculty with teaching and research materials through the Business and Economics Education Project Resource center. Principal contractor/grantee: Carana Corporation (prime).

FY 2007 Program:

Improve Private Sector Competitiveness (\$700,000 FSA). Further support will be provided to expand opportunities for businesses to grow and become more competitive. USAID will continue its work on accounting reform. Principal contractors/grantees: TBD (primes).

Performance and Results: During the past year, 19 accountants completed the requirements for receiving the Certified Accounting Practitioners certificates, which fell short of the target. Work with the Central Bank was discontinued since there was no willingness demonstrated to pursue further assistance and related reforms. The USAID-financed trade facilitation activity trained one local partner and conducted \$1,050,647 in total deals in FY 2005, more than twice the amount in FY 2004. USAID provided business consulting services to 18 local companies; however, restrictive business licensing and licensing renewal requirements led to uneven growth in sales and productivity, negatively affecting nearly 20% of the businesses served. USAID continued to offer an array of business trainings and seminars, encompassing the basic tenets of a free market economy, and delivered 16,680 participant training hours to 834 participants, 64% of whom were female. In the area of accounting, 23 courses were conducted totaling 28,000 participant training hours for 467 participants, of whom 70% were female.

USAID's investment in Junior Achievement helped establish one of the few independent and credible NGOs, helping to raise the hope and economic prospects for youth. As a result, this organization was deemed capable of receiving a direct grant of \$400,000 in reflows from the USAID-established Central

Asian American Enterprise Fund. The reflows allowed Junior Achievement to open resource centers in all five velayats (provinces) and to introduce a new economics course in the secondary school system.

By program's end, it is expected that USAID will have strengthened the capacity of future economic agents, entrepreneurs, and independent business leaders to establish and operate private businesses and to advocate more effectively for the liberalization of economic policies and a stronger private sector.

US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Turkmenistan

120-0131 Small and Medium Sized Enterprises	FSA
Through September 30, 2004	
Obligations	2,052
Expenditures	1,622
Unliquidated	430
Fiscal Year 2005	
Obligations	900
Expenditures	0
Through September 30, 2005	
Obligations	2,952
Expenditures	1,622
Unliquidated	1,330
Prior Year Unobligated Funds	
Obligations	338
Planned Fiscal Year 2006 NOA	
Obligations	680
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2006	
Obligations	1,018
Proposed Fiscal Year 2007 NOA	
Obligations	700
Future Obligations	995
Est. Total Cost	5,665